

The Iron Age

A Review of the Hardware, Iron and Metal Trades.

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The Taylor Ore Roasting Kiln.

While important improvements have been made during the past few years in almost every department of iron manufacture, yet it is acknowledged by all iron masters that one of its most important branches, viz., the calcination or roasting of iron ores for the elimination of sulphur and the preparation of ore for smelting, seems to have been neglected. It is a well-known fact that the bulk of all the ores low in phosphorus in this country, mainly magnetites, are rich in sulphur, silicious, dense, refractory, and can only be used in their native state in limited quantities, mixed with other ores, for the production of higher grades of metal. Being largely interested in these ores, and recognizing the importance of their more extensive utilization, and believing that good calcination was practicable, W. J. Taylor, of W. J. Taylor & Co., proprietors of the Chester Furnace, Chester, N. J., began experimenting in this direction in 1875. A review of what had already been done in this direction furnished nothing that could be taken as a starting point. In this country a few spasmodic efforts had been made to roast ore, by mixing with it small coal or briars, in what might be called lime kilns of various kinds, but all with the same result. Irregular heating, and consequent clinkering, took place as soon as a temperature was attempted high enough to accomplish anything like a rapid and comparatively complete oxidation of the sulphur and opening of the ore. Even had this not been the case, this plan must necessarily have proved a failure, because it is impossible, in furnaces so constructed, to introduce and control the requisite amount of air necessary for complete oxidation, and at the same time maintain and control the temperature of the ore.

The extensive roasting of the Cleveland carbonates in England was no guide, as neither high temperature nor an oxidizing atmosphere is necessary to expel carbonic acid, and any lime burner could roast this ore in any ordinary lime kiln. The only kiln approaching in result what Mr. Taylor desired to accomplish was the Westman Gas Kiln, extensively used in Sweden for the purpose not only of desulphurizing the hard magnetites of that country, but also for roasting all other magnetic ores, making them open and porous. But as this kiln necessitated an excessive amount of labor and gas from the blast furnace, little encouragement was found in that quarter. Some six or eight months spent in building, altering and experimenting with the lime-kiln process of solid fuel having convinced him that a complete roasting in that way was practically out of the question, his attention was turned to a gas kiln. An enumeration of the many different kinds of kilns experimented with is not necessary, but the result of all may be seen in the accompanying sketch of this kiln, now running successfully at Chester, N. J., roasting sulphurous New Jersey magnetites, and can be seen at any time by those interested in the business. Fig. 1 represents a vertical central section through a 6-shute kiln; the left hand half showing a section through a shute or ore chamber, and the right hand half through the solid portion or division between the ore chambers.

Horizontal sections through different parts of the kiln are shown in Fig. 2. The essential features in the operation of this kiln are that the ore is heated to a high temperature as soon as possible after entering the kiln, and is then dropped out of the hot gases of combustion and oxidized in its passage down the ore chambers, where atmospheric air only is in contact with it.

The shape of this kiln, as may be noticed, enables this to be done. A is the combustion chamber, closed at the top and surrounded by the heating and oxidizing ore chambers B, and surmounted by a common ore supply chamber, C. Gas and air are introduced at the bottom of the combustion chamber through the flue A, and after combustion escape near the top through flues 4, put in for this purpose. These flues are connected directly with the triangular circulating flues m of the outer periphery of the ore chambers, made by the offset inward of the outer wall of the ore chambers and the slope of the ore. Hence the whole outer face of the ore at this point in the ore chamber is exposed for the entrance of the hot gases of combustion, and as soon as the ore attains the proper temperature, say a welding heat, cold ore is drawn from the shute below and all the ore in the ore chamber moves downward, thus dropping the hot ore below the hot gases, while cold or partially heated ore from above takes its place. The cold ore is drawn from the shutes below at intervals to suit the heating above. Consequently, all the ore in the chamber is moved downward a little every few minutes, which keeps it from clinkering seriously and facilitates oxidation.

The ore in its passage downward in the ore chamber is cooled by the air admitted for oxidation, while the heat extracted passes upward, supporting the temperature at the heating zone or circulating flue. The ore is a long time in losing its high temperature. The ore chambers are provided with punching holes, K, which at the same time answer for sight holes and for the admission of air. The great difficulty has been to arrange the outside of these chambers for access with punching bars. At first a series of arches one above another were used, closed on the outside horizontally to about

the width of a brick. These arches formed too much obstruction to the downward passage of the ore when any clinkers were formed. But this difficulty has been entirely overcome by what may be called the triangular or three-sided ore chamber with the punching and sight holes, as shown in plan designed by Mr. Taylor's able assistant, Mr. N. M. Langdin, who has been in direct charge of this work from the beginning. The principal and most important advantages claimed for this roasting and oxidizing kiln are: 1. Complete control of the temperature, gaseous fuel only being used, although no objection has been found, but, on the contrary, perhaps a little advantage at times, to the introduction of a very small quantity of coal dust mixed with the ore. 2. Uniform heating of the ore to any temperature required at the point desired. 3. Entire control of the ore, after it is heated, in an oxidizing atmosphere. 4. Economy of working, as no heat need be lost or extracted with the ore. 5. Economy of construction, a 50-ton kiln costing about \$1500 only, with a minimum cost in wear and tear. 6. Rapidity of working, the capacity of a kiln of, say, 16 feet outside diameter, divided into, say, seven shutes, being about 50 tons of ore per day. For driving a kiln at this rate—four men per shift and the gas—about 75 pounds anthracite coal per ton of ore are required. The ore used is broken down to go through, say, a 4-inch ring, and no fine ore of any amount goes in, as a kiln will not drive if much fine ore is used. The ores that have been hitherto roasted contained from two to four per cent of sulphur, which has been readily reduced to one-half and three-quarters per cent.

The roasted ore works very easily in the blast furnace, and experience has taught that, if not too lean, iron can be made with one and a quarter tons of coal. These kilns can also be used to great advantage for many other purposes than the expulsion of sulphur from iron ore. We may add that Messrs. J. W. Taylor & Co. will build a pair of these patented kilns at once at Andover, Sussex County, New Jersey, to roast the ore from their Big Hill vein, mined at that place.

Technical Schools for Art Work.

The prospectus of the technical schools of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, in this city, has been issued. These schools are under the direct supervision of the trustees of the Museum, of which Gen. Di Censola is director. They will occupy the building erected for the purpose in First avenue, between Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth streets. It is the purpose of these schools to make thorough, efficient and practical mechanics in the two branches of carving and painting; also to supply a course of lessons in modeling and drawing, both by day and night, for the benefit of those who have not been able to finish their artistic education. The full course will last from December 6 to May 1, or about five months. The special courses will average about five weeks. No student under 14 will be admitted to the technical classes, and the applicant must have had some previous knowledge of drawing. No student under 17 will be admitted to the practical classes.

Trades will be taught practically by workmen obtained expressly from shops well known for their excellence; and the artistic branches by various teachers, each in his own specialty. The value of the technical education in foreign schools is evident in the prices commanded in the trades by workmen who have had these advantages. It is proposed to furnish the facilities not hitherto attainable in this country, for a combined artistic and practical experience in the branches taught. It is intended that the student shall be not only a master of his tools, but able to distinguish good from faulty work, either mechanically or artistically. At the end of the term each student in a full course considered competent will receive a diploma.

All information in regard to these schools can be obtained by applying at the school building between 9 and 10 a. m., or by letter to John Buckingham, manager.

The track of the Syracuse and Binghamton Railroad runs through Tallman Swamp, a mile south of Freebly. A new track was

laid recently west of the old one, and a few days ago a gravel train was run there for filling in and making embankments. At noon the train hands left the work train standing on the west track. As they were returning they saw the west track and the

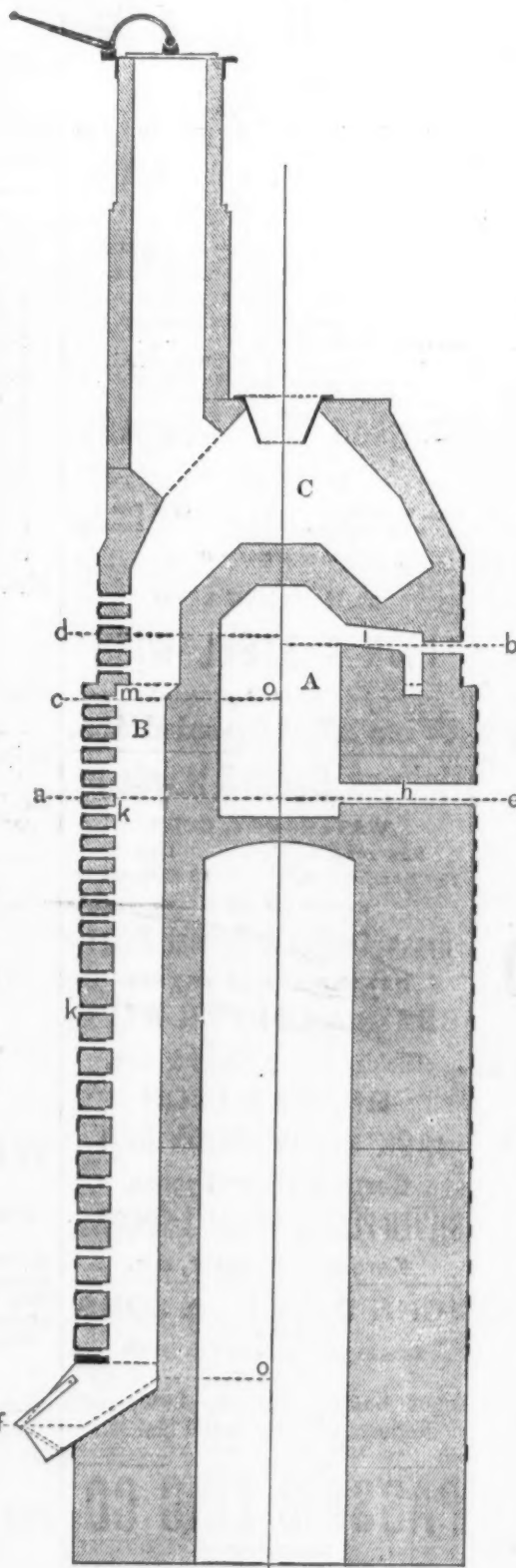


Fig. 1.

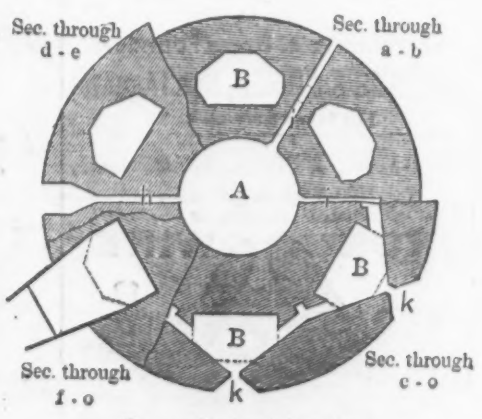


Fig. 2.—Horizontal Section.

THE TAYLOR ORE ROASTING KILN.

train sinking out of sight in the morass. The ground seemed to be heaving under a subterranean force. In less than a minute six of the gravel dumps were buried out of sight, and a pond of water near the track disappeared. It is supposed that the weight of the train was too great for the framework of decayed logs and vegetable accumulations underneath.

The English Agricultural Returns and American Competition.

The English agricultural returns for 1880, which were issued about three weeks ago, show very clearly the effect of American competition upon English farmers, as well as the means which they are using to adapt themselves to the situation. It is at first a little surprising to find it stated that at a time of serious agricultural depression the cultivated acres have increased by 126,000, or to a total of 47,587,000 acres; but as this total includes an increase of "bare fallow" acres from 721,000 acres to 812,000 acres, and as the returns are yearly more accurate and comprehensive, there is only a slight margin left to represent a total reclamation from mountain, moor and bog. The area under wheat is 2,900,000 acres, as against 35,500,000 in this country. This is an increase of 19,000 acres over 1879, but that year's record was the lowest since 1867. In oats, also, there was an increase of 5 per cent., to 2,797,000 acres, as against some 13,000,000 acres in this country. But there was such a decrease in barley, and especially in Indian corn, or maize, that the total corn crop acreage is only 8,876,000 acres, a decrease of 1 per cent. since 1879, and of 7 per cent. since 1870. Being thus partially driven from the grain fields, the British farmers have increased their green crop acreage by 10,000 to 551,000 acres, and there is also an increase in orchards and market gardens. The nature of the product, which limits the demand, and a climate too uncertain for large scale fruit-growing must, however, make any changes in this direction of small importance compared with the total farming interest. There is, however, a very large increase of permanent grass land. Since 1870 this increase is no less than 2,500,000 acres, since last year it is 260,000 acres, and the total of pasture land is now 14,427,000 acres, or nearly 45 per cent. of the arable land of Great Britain. Here is a tendency too well marked to be overlooked. The farmers see the need of going from grain to grass, and are trying to take the step, but that many of them think the always tedious process is also of doubtful profit, is a fair inference from the large number of acres lying idle under fallow. As might be expected from the large area of grass, there is an increase of 2 per cent. in horned cattle since 1879, and they now number 5,912,000. There is a decrease since last year of 1,500,000 sheep and lambs, but that is said to be due to disease induced by bad weather, and is, therefore, merely temporary. They now number 26,619,000. The decline in pigs—91,000 since 1879 and 493,000 since 1878—is a more serious matter, since it is traced to the competition of American bacon, and may, therefore, be set down as permanent. Figures are also given as to the size of holdings, which show some changes since 1875, when the return was last previously taken. In all Great Britain, the report says, the area held in occupations of 50 acres and under is still 15 per cent. of the total; that between 50 and 100 acres also 15 per cent.; between 100 and 300, 42 per cent.; from 300 to 500, 16 per cent.; from 500 to 1000, 10 per cent., and in farms over 1000 acres, 2 per cent. In England alone a tendency to larger occupations may be noticed, the small farms of 50 acres and under being now 14 instead of 15 per cent. of the whole acreage, and the moderate-sized ones, between 50 and 300 acres, 54 per cent., against 56 per cent. in 1875, while farms over 300 acres amount to 32 per cent., or nearly a third of the cultivated area, as compared with 29 per cent. in 1875.

The Paterson (N. J.) Press publishes the following letter received from Mr. E. Fontaine, the inventor of the friction-driver locomotive, lately completed at the Grant Works: The engine arrived here Sunday night, Oct. 31, all right. On Wednesday last we fired her up and ran her out in the yard empty. On Thursday we pulled a few cars through the yard. On Friday we took 24 heavily loaded cars, and pushed them down about 2 miles, and pulled them back up a 25-foot grade at the rate of 25 miles an hour. Saturday it stormed and did not take her out. Monday morning Mr. Boon (superintendent of the Fort Wayne Railroad) returned, having been absent the week previous, and knew nothing of what had been

done, and when told what she had done, could hardly credit it. We then took on 21 cars, several of them doubly loaded, weighing 474 tons and 200 pounds gross weight, and pulled them up the same grade, as above mentioned, with perfect ease. We then took on 7 more loaded cars, pulling up same grade as before; then took on 5 more with the same result, again 6 more, making 39 loaded cars, weighing 862 tons and 650 pounds gross weight, which she pulled over the same grade, and proved the extent of her ability to handle; all this was done with 135 to 140 pounds of steam. Mr. Boon and all who witnessed the trial were greatly astonished, and none more so than myself. Have made no attempt to test her speed, and will not for the present. But have no fears on that score, as no one doubts her ability to make speed.

London Bridges.

It will be a surprise to most people, remarks the *Echo*, to learn that, after paying £1,373,325 to free the toll bridges over the Thames, the Metropolitan Board of Works find the bridges in such a condition as to require the expenditure of £640,000 to make them safe. Yet this is what transpired at the meeting of the board last Friday. It is no answer to the cry of disappointment that is certain to arise to say that the expenditure will be spread over a number of years. It will have to be borne by the ratepayers, whether it is one year or twenty. Sir Joseph Bazalgette, the engineer, has presented an elaborate report, in which he describes the condition of the nine bridges (excluding that at Deptford) which demand the enormous expenditure we have named. Two of them—namely, Battersea and Putney—will have to be rebuilt, the former at a cost of £250,000, and the latter, with the approaches, costing £300,000. The case of Waterloo Bridge is the most curious. Soundings which have been made of the bed of the Thames since 1823, when the celebrated architect of the Menai Suspension Bridge, Telford, took the soundings, have established that the scour is continually deepening the bed of the river. Waterloo Bridge was built in 1814, upon a timber staging resting upon piles 20 feet long, and the masonry was carried to a depth of 5 feet below the bed of the river. The result of the scour has been that the heads of these piles are now from 1 foot to 6 feet above the bed of the river, and are visible at low water. If the foundation between the piles should be washed out, the structure would inevitably sink. The engineer now proposes to put wrought-iron cylinders round each pier, and to fill up to the level of the foundations, so as to make a solid foundation right down to the piles. These works are estimated to cost £40,000, and they were ordered on Friday by the Board. Vauxhall bridge is in pretty much the same condition, and here it is proposed to convert the three central arches into one opening, and to dredge out, so as to get an adequate area of waterway, besides putting down similar caissons to those recommended for Waterloo; estimated cost £45,000. The Lambeth Bridge is decaying; from 5 feet of the cable 9 lbs. weight of rust has been removed, of which about 42 per cent. was pure iron. The Albert Suspension Bridge, "if loaded on one side, will depress where loaded, and rise where not loaded." A part of Battersea Bridge overhangs as much as 9 feet, and the stumps of the piles are in a ruinous condition. Wandsworth Bridge has suffered from want of cleaning and painting. Putney Bridge, which is 151 years old, is in little better condition than Battersea, and is a serious obstruction to the navigation. Of Hammersmith Bridge it is remarked that it will become a matter for serious consideration whether wrought-iron should not be substituted for the cast-iron cross-girders under the roadway. The Board have resolved to seek Parliamentary powers for such portions of the foregoing projects as they have not power at the present to carry out, and for mending this bad bargain of the Board the ratepayers will have to pay what will be equal to a single rate of 6½d. in the pound.

Building Societies.—Foreigners are always amazed, says an English exchange, at the large sums of money which appear in government reports and represent the business of that country. A return like that relating to building societies, could not be matched probably in Europe or America. There are in England and Wales 946 societies, containing 320,076 members, or an average in each society of 330. The total amount of all shares is £18,864,148, or about £50 per member; and the depositors and creditors have invested £11,458,438. The year's receipts were £16,417,122. The balance due on mortgage securities is £29,842,576. Last year could not be said to be prosperous, but no less than 155 new societies were incorporated in England. In Scotland there were 11,902 members of building societies. The liabilities to shareholders amounted to £809,124, and to depositors to £500,044. The balance due on mortgage securities was £1,163,818, and other investments were of the value of £107,003. In Ireland there were 653 members of building societies. The liabilities to shareholders were £500,417 and to depositors £346,437. The balance due on mortgage securities was £855,932, and the value of other investments was £43,915.

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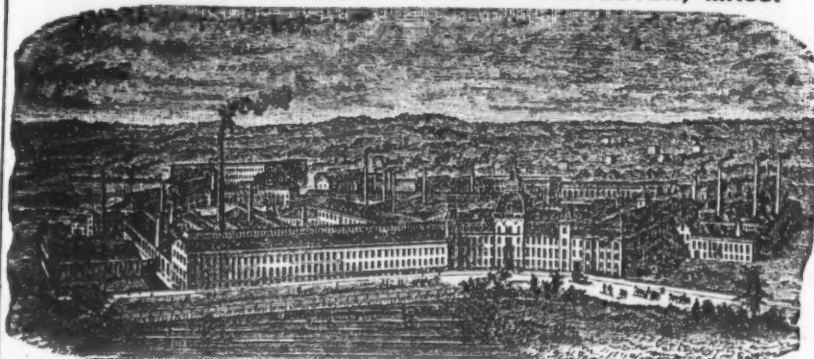
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Papers on Practical Founding.—X.

BY EDWARD KIRK.

MOLDING FLOORS.

After erecting the right kind of a building for stove founding, the next important thing to be done is to put in the molding floor. This cannot be made of wood, for it would take fire if any molten iron were spilled or any hot castings laid upon it. Moreover, the sand would dry very rapidly on a wooden floor, and the dampness of the sand would soon rot the floor. For these reasons some earthy material that will harden and resist the action of heat is used for foundry floors. The floor should be made in such a way that it will not become wet and muddy by water leaking in from the adjoining grounds during wet weather, for, if the foundry floor is too wet the sand draws dampness from it and soon becomes so wet that it cannot be used for molding. Besides, if molten iron be spilled upon a wet floor it explodes like gunpowder and is very dangerous to the workmen. To avoid these troubles the floor should be raised above the level of the adjoining ground. The earth should be removed from the foundry to the depth of a foot or more below the intended top of the floor, and this space should be filled in with cinder to the depth of 8 or 10 inches. If the ground is very wet a drain should be connected with this cinder bed, so as to carry off any water that may leak into it. On top of this bed of cinders the floor should be made of some substance that will harden or pack so solid that it will not be dug up by the shovel when the molding sand is tempered or shoveled.

Many different materials have been tried, all of which have their advantages and disadvantages, but the material most extensively used for floors is common yellow clay. The clay is well puddled and worked, to unite the different strata and make it tough; it is spread over the bed of cinders to the depth of from 4 to 6 inches, and is well rammed, to pack it down solid; it is then scraped off perfectly level and allowed to dry for a week or two before it is used. This material makes a good molding floor, if the right kind of clay is used and the floor is properly rammed and dried, and it keeps the sand heaps in better temper than a floor made of any other material. The only objection to the clay floor is that it draws dampness from the sand heaps and gets a little soft under them. A careless molder will soon dig holes in the floor under his heap when he is molding up or tempering the sand. These holes, however, can easily be repaired, and in many of our leading stove foundries clay is the only material used for molding floors.

Many of our large stove founders have attempted to find something that will make a more durable molding floor than clay, and they have tried various materials. Cement has been largely used. It makes a fine smooth floor to work on, but is not nearly so durable as clay, as it is affected by heat. When molten iron is spilled upon the floor it cuts up the cement, and holes are made that are difficult to repair. The cement breaks up around the edges, the hole enlarges very fast, and small hard pieces of cement get into the molding sand and often spoil the castings. Cement floors, moreover, draw the moisture from the molding sand very rapidly, making it difficult to keep the heaps in proper temper. They have, therefore, been abandoned in foundries where they have been thoroughly tested. Brick and cement are sometimes used for making floors. The foundry is filled in with cinders or ashes to the proper height, and is paved with bricks laid from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch apart. These are then flushed with cement, which is mixed with water and made very thin, so that it will run down between the bricks, cementing them into one solid sheet. This makes a harder and more durable floor than any that has been used, and the only objection to it is that it is very hard on shovels, wearing them very rapidly. Several other materials have been used for floors, but for durability and cheapness none make a superior floor to the clay or the brick and cement floor.

In stove founding a good level molding floor is as important a matter as a good pattern. Some of the plates are so thin that the molten iron must be poured very rapidly to prevent its being chilled by the damp sand before it has filled the mold or formed the casting. For this purpose flat gates are often used upon the casting. They weigh twice as much as the latter, and when filled with molten iron, exert an immense downward pressure. If a flask is 2 or 3 inches lower at one end than at the other, all the pressure of the molten iron is thrown to the lower end of the mold, and the casting will be strained and made thicker at the lower than at the upper end. In such a case the heavy part always warps the light, making it more difficult to mount the stove. This straining can be prevented by ramming the mold a little harder at the lower end, but there is not one stove molder in fifty who ever notices whether his flask is level or not. He merely rolls it over and sees that it lies solid. If the floor is uneven, the flask may be 3 inches higher at one end than at the other, and the molder will invariably ram the high end harder, because it is the handier. This has the effect of making the high end lighter and the low end heavier than they should be.

If floors are not made of some material that is hard or will become hard, they will be dug up when the sand is shoveled, will soon become uneven, and by mixing with the sand will make the heaps dirty. Last summer I visited some large stove foundries where the floors were made of sand or some soft clay. The molders had scraped off a little of the floor every time they shoveled up their sand, until they had got down to the cinder bed, their sand heaps being full of cinders and ashes. Yet the company was having all its sand ground and bolted in order to make first-class work, and when the molders wanted new sand they would always get some that had been ground and bolted, and mix it with their old sand that was full of cinders and ashes. If some of our stove founders would pay more attention to their molding floors they would be able to produce a better quality of plate, and

would save the expense of grinding and bolting their sand. In almost all the large stove foundries of the eastern district the floor allotted to each molder is numbered, the number being marked in large figures on the wall or beams at the end or over the floor. When work is sent in or taken out, the pattern or flask wheeler is told the number of the floor to or from which it is to be taken, instead of the name of the molder. This saves a great deal of trouble, for in many cases the wheeler does not know the name of every molder in the foundry, and it often happens that there are two or more molders of the same name, so that the pattern or flask may be taken to the wrong man.

SAND FOR STOVE FOUNDRY.

For stove founding a very peculiar grade of sand is required. It must be of a very fine grain in order to make smooth plates. It must contain sufficient loam to give it strength enough to hang together and resist the pressure of the molten metal, and yet it must neither be too fine nor contain too much loam, or it will pack so closely that the gas cannot escape freely from the surface of the mold, making it difficult to produce a casting free from blow-holes. A sand possessing all these properties is very difficult to find, and it is only in certain localities that first-class sand for stove founding can be obtained. In almost every part of the country sand is found that can be and is used for stove founding, but it does not give the plate a fine surface, and a great deal more care and labor is required in working it than would be necessary with a first-class sand. The best molding sand in this country for stove founding—that which is reputed best, at any rate—is found near Albany and Troy, New York, and is called the Albany sand. The Waterford sand has a good reputation, but it is of the same nature as the Albany, and the two are often called by the same name. This sand is largely exported from Albany to all parts of the country, almost all the large stove founders in the Eastern and Middle States, and some of the Western States, using it exclusively. There are various grades of this sand, some veins or banks being finer than others, and when purchasing it for stove founding care should be taken to procure the finest quality, as all Albany sand is not good for stove founding.

A very fine quality of sand, said to be equal to the Albany sand for stove founding, has lately been found in New Jersey, but I have not visited any foundries where it is used, and cannot speak with certainty as to its good or bad qualities. Another fine sand is found at Sandusky, Ohio. It is equal to the Albany sand, and will give as fine a surface to the plate when it is new, but after it has been used for a while it becomes rotten, and will then wash before the molten metal. It is then almost impossible to make a casting in it free from sand holes, nor can the heaps be kept in good order by adding new sand. The trouble with this sand is that it does not contain quite enough loam to give it sufficient strength to be worked alone, but it is splendid for mixing with a sand that contains too much loam and is so close that the vent cannot escape. A good molding sand is found near Cincinnati, Ohio. It is called "Cincinnati sand," and is largely used through the West, but it does not give so fine a surface as the Albany sand. When a suitable sand for stove founding cannot be found, a good sand can sometimes be made by mixing two or more grades possessing different properties. It often happens that a coarse-grained sand is too close and strong for stove plate, while a coarse-grained sand is too open and weak. If these two grades be mixed, the fine sand will give more strength to the weak sand, and the coarse, open sand will make the fine sand more porous, so that the two together make a better molding sand than either alone.

In this way a suitable sand for stove founding can be procured in almost any part of the country. When two or more grades of sand are to be used in the same heap, they should be mixed and riddled together before they are put into the heap, for unless they are, a careless molder may get all of one grade of sand in one part of the heap and another grade in another part. In this case he will produce poorer castings than if his entire heap were composed of the poorer of the two grades; for, however poor the sand may be, a molder will become accustomed to it so that he can produce a pretty good casting; but, if he has two or three grades of sand in a heap and does not know where any of them are, he can never become accustomed to that heap, and all the good castings he makes are merely chance work. Therefore, in order to make a good molding sand out of various grades, these must be thoroughly mixed so as to obtain a uniform quality throughout.

In stove founding much more care is required in tempering the sand than in any other kind of founding, for in this work the plates are very light, and the molten iron must be spread out in a very thin sheet over the sand. It is then very sensitive, and the least variation in the temper of the sand is visible on the casting in the shape of blow-holes or scars. The sand had better all be a little too wet or a little too dry than wet and dry in spots, but it is desirable that it should be neither wet, dry nor spotted. The cry of poor sand from the molders is often more imaginary than real, and in many cases the trouble complained of can be overcome by using a little more judgment in tempering and working the sand.

Customs Dispute.—A curious dispute has arisen between the French and German customs authorities with regard to the application of the conventional tariff between the two countries. It appears that a short time ago a German house received an order from Paris for a quantity of hay forks and other articles, and they were duly despatched, together with a statement by the French Consul that they were of German origin. Notwithstanding this, the goods were stopped at the frontier and taxed according to the general tariff, on the ground that the articles were not manufactured in Germany. A protest followed, to which the French government replied that they were bound by the report of experts. Another consignment of forks was made, and the whole history of

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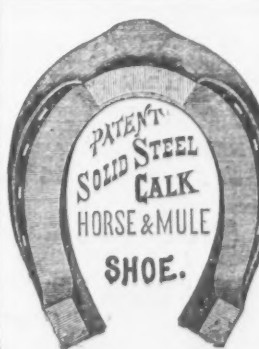
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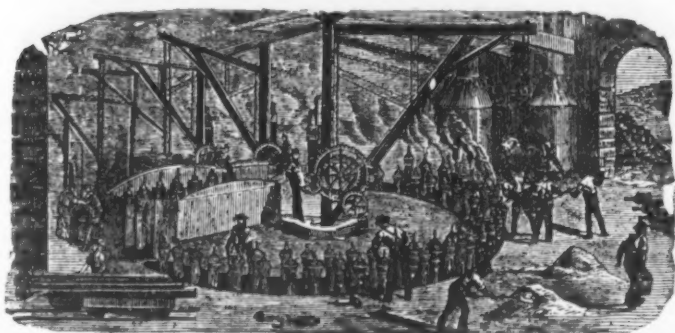
the first repeated, the experts emphatically
declaring that the forks were of American
make. The German house then sent on a
few forks in various stages of manufacture,
explaining in a detailed report the processes
they had undergone, and challenging the
opinion of competent judges from the dis-
trict of Arnaberg, the place of their works.
What action will be taken on this remains to
be seen.

Cable Laying Under Difficulties.
The Ottawa Citizen gives the following
interesting account of the landing of a cable
on one of the islands at the mouth of the St.
Lawrence:

About 20 miles north of the Magdalen Islands are two precipitous rocky islets known as the Bird Rocks, with cliffs either nearly perpendicular or over-hanging, and from 120 to 140 feet above the ever-surfing seas at the entrance of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. For centuries these remarkable rocks have been the home of the gannets—large gulls, which congregate there in countless myriads to hatch their callow young in fancied security. The requirements of commerce soon, however, demanded other uses for the larger island, whose area of less than seven acres is now covered with a close growth of fine grass. This rock, standing like a grim sentinel to warn off vessels from the treacherous quicksands of the Magdalen group, which extend southerly nearly eighty miles, was peculiarly available for a lighthouse station, and in the year 1868, two ladders of 65 feet each in length, were iron clamped to its cliff; cranes (one being worked by steam) were erected over points which overhung the ocean, and a keeper with two assistants were finally left in charge of a strongly-secured tower of low altitude, showing a powerful dioptric light, which gives confidence to mariners when either entering or departing from the waters of the great St. Lawrence. After five years of able advocacy by the Hon. Dr. P. Fortin, M. P. for the country of Gaspé, P. Q., the government of the Dominion of Canada, under the Premiership of Sir John Macdonald, determined to connect the rock to the Magdalen group, and thence to Cape Breton, N. S., by two submarine electric cables, as a section of Dr. Fortin's comprehensive scheme for connecting Anticosti, the Magdalen, St. Paul's, Sable and other smaller outlying islands with the existing system of telegraphy throughout the Dominion, so that aid may be speedily sent to vessels in distress or ashore, the observations of the meteorological service more extended, and in the spring the state and position of the ice in the gulf regularly and reliably ascertained, and last, though by no means least, the fishermen may be informed of the absence or presence of fish and bait. For the more effective establishment of the service the Canadian Ministry appointed Mr. F. N. Gisborne, C. E., whose name is well known as the first practical mover in and originator of transatlantic telegraphy, as their superintendent of the telegraph and signal service; the steamship Newfield was sent to London to be fitted as a cable-laying and repairing ship, and Mr. Gisborne having made the necessary contracts with the India Rubber, Gutta Percha and Telegraph Works Company, of Silvertown on Thames, the vessel, fully equipped, returned to the Gulf of St. Lawrence and commenced operations October 16th, 1880, although the season was already too far advanced for cable laying in such latitudes upon the American coast. Under so experienced a cable layer as Matthew Gray, the manager of the above company, Mr. Kingsberry, his engineer, and Mr. Ripon, assistant electrician (the company having undertaken the risk of laying the cables) the Island of Anticosti was within three days successfully connected with the mainland at Gaspé, and the steamer Newfield, with Dr. Fortin a guest on board, then headed for the *belle noir* of the expedition, the much apprehended rock of the gannets. On October 20, with the weather exceptionally fine, the Newfield was anchored one-third of a mile distant from a cliff 140 feet high, to and up which it was necessary to extend the shore end of a cable weighing fifteen tons per knot. From the summit a rather fragile looking rope suspended three small ladders at different altitudes, and upon the lower one rested, some 20 feet above the surging waters, one of the lighthouse men. A large boat from the Newfield, in which sat Messrs. Gray, King, Gisborne and Ripon and Dr. Fortin, then approached the human spider on the cliff sufficiently near to be informed that he had selected the best and only spot where a cable could be landed. Such information would have been deterrent to most men; for it appeared to be an almost impossible undertaking to land a heavy cable in such a position, and under such impression the boat was steered to a lower portion of the rock, where, as already described, the two 60-foot ladders were clamped to the cliff. After sundry bumps, which almost stove the boat, the party landed upon some water-washed slippery rocks, upon one of which Mr. Gray endeavored to leave an impression by sitting down with a precipitancy which must have loosened his teeth. Mr. Gisborne was first up the ladder, and in due course was followed by the ponderous, though powerful, doctor, whose 16 stones was a sufficient proof that the rungs of the ladder were safe transit for all adventurous followers. Arrived upon the summit, and after a most unwilling approval of the landing place selected as the best possible, not a minute was lost; the steam crane was fired up with pickings from three or four barrels of refuse band or shala which some rascally contractor at Quebec had shipped for coal (at government expense), a cruel outrage upon the poor men who are doomed to six months' winter service upon a rock where even a stick of drift-wood is not available to keep them from freezing. Soon a wire rope was passed from the steamer and made fast to a line from above by the spider man, and by it a stout manila rope was drawn up the cliff and passed to the steam winch, to be followed by a line of boats, supporting the weight of the electric cable as near into the foot of the cliff as practicable. Then came the tug of war; the winch being weak required the assistance of falls and tackle,

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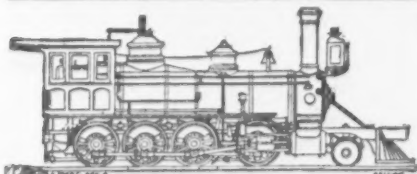
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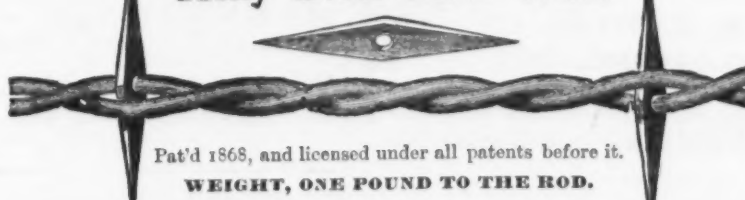
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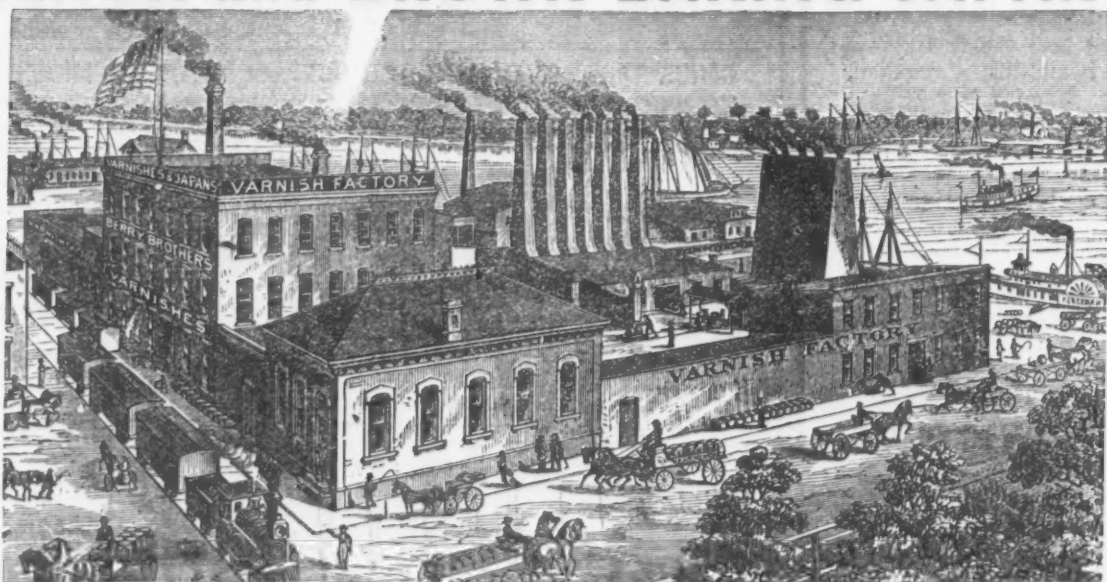
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until at last, after a twelve hours' struggle, the little breath unexpended, announced, in husky cheers, the cable safely moored to the case of the lighthouse. The steamer finally ran out a mile of cable seawards, cut and buoyed it; and thus was effected probably the most difficult and dangerous cable landing hitherto made by the determination and ingenuity of man. Meanwhile the instruments, stores, &c., having been hoisted up by the second winch, and all having been connected up in good working order, this unique telegraph station was left in charge of Mr. Chaisson, keeper of the lighthouse of the gannets.

Apprentice Schools in France.

Amid the new conditions of labor under which the former relation of master to craftsman has been replaced by that of capitalist to employees, the old system of apprenticeship has everywhere decayed. In those countries where, as in England, no substitute has been found for it, the loss of the technical training once assured to young workmen has had a most damaging effect upon the national industries. The urgent need for some remedy for the existing state of things is recognized in Great Britain, and various methods of imparting an adequate knowledge of handicrafts and skill in manipulation have been suggested. Example in such cases is, of course, more impressive than the most ingenious theory, and Prof. Silvanus P. Thompson has done a good work by showing the English and American readers of the *Contemporary Review* what and how much is accomplished in the apprentice schools of France.

By way of illustration, four typical establishments are selected, all of which are situated in Paris, and exemplify various combinations of a workshop with a school. There seems to be no reason why these institutions, or some modification of them, more exactly adjusted to the local conditions of labor, should not be reproduced in England or the United States. The oldest of the schools described, the Institution of St. Nicholas, founded in 1827, is under the management of a religious guild exclusively devoted to education. There are here 850 boys, all children of artisans, who pay \$6 a month for their board and lodging. Small as the individual contribution is, the aggregate income and expenditure of the establishment amounted last year to \$230,000, although the services of the friars who conduct the school are given at a nominal rate. The average age of the pupils on entrance is 11 years, but none are admitted who cannot already read and write. The greater part of every day is given up to manual work, only two hours being reserved for book studies on three days of the week, the same amount of time on the alternate three days being devoted to drawing. There are on the premises a great number of workshops, each let out to an approved craftsman, to whom are apprenticed, for a term of three or four years, some ten or twelve boys. The trades thus taught are those most sure of occupation in Paris, such as those of carpenter, wood turner, wood carver, marble mason, brass worker, carver and gilder, clock maker, compositor, printer, wood engraver, and so forth. In these shops nothing is made that will not sell, the apprentices learning the value not only of materials, but of time, and although the works that pass under their hands are graduated to their capacity, they are of precisely the same character as those which apprentices in any ordinary workshop would have to undertake. The apprentices earn nothing during their term of service beyond a little pocket money when they are well advanced, but when they leave the school they know the whole mystery of their trade, and are thoroughly expert artisans. They can take the raw materials and from them evolve a finished article, and they will earn at once from \$1 to \$1.20 a day, instead of the 40, 60 or 80 cents usually obtained in Paris by young workmen just out of their time. Their reputation, moreover, for steadiness, skill and general intelligence is such that the graduates of this school have little difficulty in securing uninterrupted employment, and, by the time they reach the age of 30, commonly rise to the position of foreman or master.

Another school which deserves to be scanned in some detail, both on account of its theoretical merits and the striking practical results, was established eight years ago by M. Léon Say, at the expense of the city of Paris. Boys are received here at the age of 13 or 14, provided their primary education has been completed, and after a three years' course are turned out with sufficient experience and technical skill to command from \$5 to \$8 a week, wages which are reckoned in France exceptionally good for young journeymen artisans. The instruction offered at this school is not only gratuitous, but actually remunerative, for the pupils receive a weekly gratification varying from 30 to 60 cents. At this institution five hours a day are given to book studies, including modeling and drawing to a scale, and six hours to the work of the shops. There are two principal workshops—one devoted to the workers in iron, and the other to the workers in wood, and the trades taught are forging, metal turning, carpentry, wood turning and pattern making. During his first, or preparatory year, no attempt is made to specialize the work of the apprentice, nor is he expected to produce anything for sale, but the first twelve-month over, he settles down to one specific craft, and henceforth all the articles he makes are saleable. In this respect the municipal school seems to possess an advantage over the St. Nicholas Institution, because in the early stages of training, when workmanship is very imperfect, it is scarcely advisable to strive to produce a merchantable article. Better waste wood than spoil an apprentice, is the maxim followed. There is no doubt, too, that the general intelligence of the young workmen is furthered by allowing them to see something of all the phases of their trade, and of allied trades as well, instead of confining them by a premature division of labor to a single narrow function. The technical efficiency attained by the pupils of this school may be inferred from the fact that almost all the tools used were made by the apprentices themselves, and that several of the machines, as, for in-

stance, a ribbon saw made by the boys of this establishment, attracted high commendation at the last French exposition. The whole cost of this institution, including land, buildings and furniture, to the city of Paris was \$150,000, and the working expenses are \$12,000 a year. Two hundred and twenty-one pupils, however, are already accommodated, and the benefits of the school will be speedily extended to a much greater number with a very slight increase of total disbursements.

A somewhat different type of training establishment is the Communal School, founded in 1873 at the instance of M. Salicis, a naval officer who has given much attention to technical education. The pupils are admitted here at a very early age, and they have not, as a rule, completed their primary education; but, if they stay out the prescribed three years' course, they not only get as good instruction in book knowledge as in any of the ordinary elementary schools, but they will also have seen something of constructive industry. An hour and a half each morning and afternoon are given to manual labor, and every pupil works from drawings which he has previously made to scale. During the first two years boys are sent to work in rotation at one after another of the different occupations of the workshop—as at carpentry, for example, one day, and at metal turning the next. It is only during the third year that a pupil settles down to some one pursuit, and at the Communal School no article whatever is made for sale, the accepted theory of the director being that the construction of saleable products would not afford so good a training for his boys. It is admitted, however, that they do not work so rapidly as apprentices brought up to keep constantly in view the exigencies of trade and to appreciate the commercial value of time.

Another example of a successful apprenticeship school deserves mention, because an attachment of the kind might be profitably made to many of our large industrial establishments. We refer to the school room and apprentices composing room established in connection with the great printing house of M. M. Chais & Cie. The apprentices, of whom there are between 30 and 40, devote most of their time to the manual work of composing, only two hours a day being allotted to lessons in the school room. The term of service is four years, during which time the pupils receive wages rising from 10 cents to 50 cents a day for the compositors, and from 15 cents to 90 cents for the printers who work at the steam presses under the direction of a master. In the Chais establishment every line set up by a pupil is, if possible, so much contributed to the current work of the firm, and as time exercises are frequent, the value of rapidly in manipulation is learned. At the end of the apprenticeship the pupils elect almost without exception to become employees of the firm, and enter at once into the rank of participants in the yearly division of profits. The remarkable intelligence which characterizes the pupils of this school has been ascribed to the fact that their technical knowledge has been acquired in the very midst of a great business, under circumstances which force them to comprehend commercial exigencies and the adaptation of complicated methods to large results.

It will be observed that only one of these successful institutions required much outlay, viz., the *Ecole Municipale* of Paris, which is paralleled at Lyons and Havre, and could easily be reproduced by any rich American municipality. The St. Nicholas Institution is self-supporting, so far as the workshops are concerned, though the pupils pay an insignificant sum for their board and lodging. The whole expense of the Communal School, salaries, tools and materials included, does not exceed \$1600 a year, although, as we have seen, no articles are made for sale. As to the training school established by Messrs. Chais, which has a number of imitators in France, this is actually looked upon as a main source of profit and prosperity to the concern.

Early Iron Making in England.—In the reign of Edward III iron was so scarce that the pots, spits and frying pans of the royal kitchen were clad among the king's jewels. Up to the end of the fifteenth century, English iron was not only dearer, but inferior, to that manufactured on the Continent. During the fifteenth century the manufacture of iron began to be extensive in Sussex, where the ore and timber for smelting it abounded, and iron mills soon became numerous in the country. The landed proprietors entered into the business eagerly, and not only were many ancient houses enriched thereby, but several new men acquired wealth and founded families. In the Forest of Dean also iron was largely smelted, but the land soon became denuded of trees in consequence of the exclusive use of charcoal for smelting; people became alarmed, and many edicts were promulgated restricting the manufacture of iron. Eventually the feeling became so strong that from the time of the Restoration the iron manufacture of England rapidly declined. Coal, as then used, injuriously affected the quality of the iron, and it was not till the beginning of the eighteenth century that steps were taken to overcome this difficulty.

The old practice in making boards was to split up the log with wedges, and, inconvenient as the practice was, it was no easy matter to persuade the world that the thing could be done in any better way. Sawmills were first used in Europe in the 15th century, but so late as 1555 an English ambassador, having seen a sawmill in France, thought it a novelty which deserved particular description. It is amusing to note how the aversion to labor-saving machinery has always agitated England. The first sawmill was established by a Dutchman, in 1663; but the public outcry against the new-fangled machine was so violent that the proprietor was forced to decamp with greater expedition than ever did Dutchman before. The evil was thus kept out of England for several years, or rather generations, but in 1768 an unlucky timber merchant, hoping that after so long a time the public would be less watchful of its own interests, made a rash attempt to construct another mill. The

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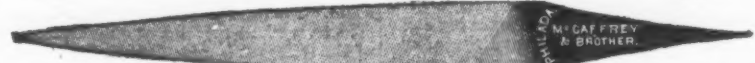
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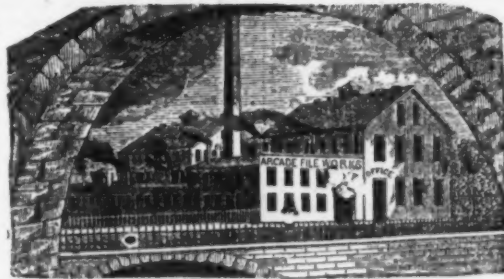
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Lightning,
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Mill,
Mill Blunt,
Mill Pointing,
Pillar,
Pitsaw,
Reaper,
Roller,
Round,
Round Blunt,
Slotting,
Slim Handsaw Taper,
Square,
Square Blunt,
Square Equaling Files,
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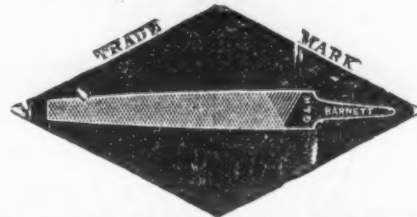
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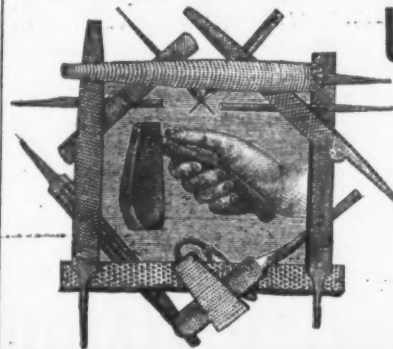
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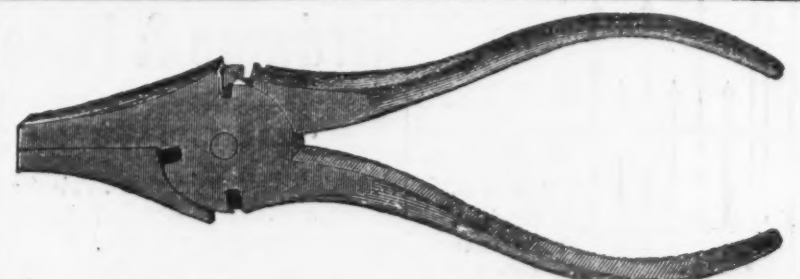
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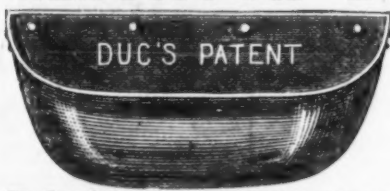
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guardians of the public welfare, however were on the alert, and a conscientious mob at once collected and pulled the mill to pieces.

The Mines and the Metallurgical Works of Prussia in 1879.

The annual detailed statistics of the production of the mines, salt works and metallurgical works of Prussia have just come to hand. Three hundred and ninety-four collieries, employing 118,819 miners and 26,664 persons above ground, and 2456 females, turned out 37,674,648 metric tons of coal, of which 2,580,324 tons were consumed by their own machinery, and 35,094,324 tons were sent to market. The production of lignite from 461 mines gave employment to 10,411 miners and 7912 men and 270 women above ground, the output being, in all, 9,278,354 tons. The returns show, besides, a production in the Province of Hanover of 26,000 tons of asphalt, and it may be interesting to add that the oil wells of the same province produced 47 metric tons of petroleum, so that as yet they cannot be said to be threatening to our producers. Rock salt was mined to the extent of 142,857 tons, the bulk of which, of course, came from the famous Stassfurt mines, which produced, besides, 41,181 tons of kainite and 306,995 tons of other potash salts, and 70 tons of borazite. Twenty-four thousand two hundred and ninety-nine persons were occupied in mining iron ore, of which 6486 men and 1594 women worked above ground. In all, 581 mines produced 3,153,091 metric tons of iron ore. The coal, lignite, iron, salt and metalliferous mines of Prussia together gave employment to 231,782 persons, of whom 170,992 work underground, while 53,795 men and 6995 women work above ground. The amount of ordinary salt produced from brine was 230,730 tons, besides which there were manufactured 34,006 tons of chloride of potassium, 2505 tons of chloride of magnesium, 8242 tons of glauber salt, 9999 tons of sulphate of potassa, 597 tons of sulphate of potassa and magnesia, 9675 tons of sulphate of magnesia, 2342 tons of sulphate of alumina and 2908 tons of alum.

Prussia has 36 charcoal blast furnaces, of which 30, running 1004 weeks, turned out 29,536 tons of pig; 130 blast furnaces, running 5890 weeks, on raw coal or coke, produced 1,607,969 tons of iron from 3,458,481 tons of domestic ore and 336,223 tons of foreign ore; 325,008 tons of mill and other cinder, and 11,939 tons of scrap. Besides this there were two furnaces working 45 weeks on a mixture of coal and charcoal, which produced 2165 tons of pig, so that the total output figures up to 1,639,676 tons of pig from 162 furnaces, running, together, 6939 weeks. These furnaces made 84,359 tons of foundry pig, 438,899 tons of pig for steel manufacture, 1,089,166 tons of forge pig, and 20,866 tons cast directly from the furnace. All the furnaces gave employment to 14,399 workmen.

Prussia has 162 works which make the casting of iron their only business; there are, besides, 96 foundries connected with metallurgical establishments, and 362 with machine shops, &c., in all 622 foundries, employing 20,387 men and 171 women. These have together a plant of 1197 cupolas, of which 864 were at work; 112 reverberatory furnaces, of which 85 were in operation, and 103 furnaces of various descriptions, of which 160 were working. It is striking that the Prussian foundries consumed as much as 162,878 tons of foreign pig and only 83,875 tons of German pig. Besides they melted 104,861 tons of scrap, chiefly from domestic sources. The foundries produced 136,234 tons of machinery castings, 25,444 tons of hollowware, 45,509 tons of gas and water pipe, 8719 tons of chilled castings, 1745 tons of malleable iron castings, and 86,961 tons of miscellaneous castings.

Prussia had in 1879, 277 works producing wrought iron, and giving occupation to 40,070 workmen. During the year, 140 out of 189 refining furnaces, 1348 out of 1962 stationary furnaces, 9 out of 14 rotary puddling furnaces, 683 out of 1019 welding furnaces, 357 out of 433 reheating furnaces, 7 out of 11 cement steel furnaces, and 237 out of 254 miscellaneous furnaces were in operation. These works worked 1,213,166 tons of German forge pig, 3681 tons of foreign forge pig, 100,028 tons of scrap and old iron, 59,219 tons of blooms and billets, and produced 56,325 tons of fish plates and bolts, 402 tons of railway axles, 2908 tons of car wheels, 5584 tons of tires, 227,171 tons of iron permanent way, 265,082 tons of merchant bar, 104,084 tons of refined bar, 53,893 tons of ordinary building shapes, 60,550 tons of bridge and ship shapes, 25,715 tons of forgings, 1038 tons of parts of machinery, 77,345 tons of plates and boiler iron, 42,334 tons of sheet iron, 42,256 tons of finest sheets, 8273 tons of tin plates, 178,430 tons of wire, 4092 tons of tubing and 43,236 tons of other miscellaneous articles.

During the year 1879, 31 out of 46 Bessemer converters, 23 out of 55 open-hearth furnaces, 17 out of 38 crucible furnaces for the manufacture of ingot iron, and 130 out of 290 crucible furnaces for the manufacture of steel, were in operation in Prussia. In the manufacture of ingot iron these furnaces consumed 356,311 tons of German pig, 106,878 tons of foreign pig, 39,165 tons of spiegelisen, 2868 tons of ferromanganese, 5500 tons of wrought iron, 35,094 tons of ingot iron and 71,317 tons of scrap. For the manufacture of crucible steel, 6948 tons of puddled steel and 4764 tons of various materials were used. The Bessemer converters produced 464,642 tons of steel, the open-hearth furnaces turned out 56,827 tons of metal, and 1273 tons of steel were turned out by other apparatus. The production of crucible steel footed up to 26,509 tons. This material was sold as 64,989 tons of blooms and billets, 7238 tons of crucible steel, 317,782 tons of rails, 5046 tons of track materials, 10,491 tons of axles, 17,728 tons of car wheels, 23,261 tons of tires, 8968 tons of permanent way, 3413 tons of bar steel, 1790 tons of fine steel, 1777 tons of parts of machinery, 10,206 tons of guns and projectiles, 12,658 tons of ingots, 1632 tons of plates and sheets, 4035 tons of

wire, and 27,830 tons of miscellaneous articles.

The smelting works of Prussia produced 96,482 tons of spelter and zinc, 76,013 tons of lead, 3143 tons of litharge, 9607 tons of copper, 134 tons of silver, 576 pounds of gold, 81 tons of nickel, 326 tons of preparations of arsenic, 150 tons of alloys of antimony, 1239 tons of sulphur, 237,779 tons of sulphuric acid, 11,245 tons of oil of vitriol, 5408 tons of green vitriol, 40,977 tons of blue vitriol, and 1720 tons of zinc vitriol.

Ericsson's "Destroyer."

For the last five years Captain Ericsson has been working upon torpedoes. After many experiments he decided to use gunpowder, instead of compressed air, in the propulsion of submarine torpedoes carrying destructive charges of dynamite. His recent trials have been made with a projectile of peculiar form and a gun of novel construction. This trial gun is 30 feet in length and of 15 inches caliber, muzzle-loader, suspended under the bottoms of two wrecking saws, the gun being lifted above the water after each shot by shears and suitable tackle. The present projectile of the Destroyer (as Captain Ericsson calls his perfected invention) is the result of the extended trials referred to; its length is 25 feet 6 inches, diameter 16 inches, and its weight 1500 pounds, including 250 pounds of explosive material. It is made principally of wood, and its shape somewhat resembles a cigar. The point, or dynamite section, about 5 feet in length, from the vertex to the base, is made of copper, and a cast-iron armature is affixed to the tail to balance the weight of the opposite end. As it is made of wood principally, the "experimental" projectile, after it has run its course, will rise to the surface, and is readily recovered. For firing this projectile Captain Ericsson has applied to the Destroyer a gun similar to the one used in most of the experiments, but a breech-loader. It is a smooth-bore gun, 30 feet in length, of 16 inches bore, and is hooped with steel. The breech is locked upon the Dutch principle, and when unlocked is swung upward and over, with a hinge connection for the gun to receive the torpedo and the charge of gunpowder.

The results of the first experiments having proved satisfactory and successful, Capt. Ericsson has built, at his own expense, an iron vessel, which he has appropriately named the Destroyer. This is now on the Hudson, where the experiments with the new torpedo have been carried on extensively for several months. These were concluded on November 11. Preparations are now making for a steam trial to determine the actual consumption of coal per mile, and to decide whether sufficient coal can be carried to take the vessel across the Atlantic. There is no armament to be seen, nor anything that gives the Destroyer the appearance of a war vessel to an ordinary observer, unless it may be her singular design. The form of the hull is very peculiar, the ends being precisely alike, and terminating with very fine wedges, probably sharper than any other vessel of deep draft yet built. The length is 130 feet, depth 11 feet, and beam 12 feet, thus presenting the unusual proportion of 11 times greater length than beam. The leading feature of the construction is that the vessel is provided with an intermediate curved deck, extending from stem to stern, composed of plate iron, strongly ribbed, and perfectly water tight. This intermediate deck sustains a heavy, solid, deflecting armor plate placed transversely to the line of keel 32 feet from the bow, inclined at an angle of 45 degrees, and supported on the aft side by a wood backing 4 feet 6 inches deep at the base. The steering wheel and electric batteries for discharging the torpedo gun are placed behind this wood backing. A deck-house or cabin 70 feet long, composed of plate iron, is riveted water-tight to the upper part of the hull, and its forward end comes to the deflecting armor plate. This cabin is for the quarters of the officers and crew, and for the officer in command of the vessel, who has a view of everything ahead of him through a glass port. He steers the vessel and discharges the gun without fear of the enemy's guns, as he is protected by a wrought-iron armor plating in front of him, sixteen inches in thickness. From the steering wheel runs a wire rope to a valve near the stern, by which water pressure is admitted alternately to the hydraulic cylinders at the stern, the motion of whose pistons turns the rudder. The rudder of this novel craft is another important feature, as it is wholly unconnected with the visible part of the stern, being attached to a vortical wrought iron post welded to a prolongation of the keel just aft of the propeller, its upper part being about five feet below the water-line when the vessel is in motion at full speed. The tillers consist of tin plates of iron riveted on opposite sides of the rudder, a few inches from the bottom. These tillers are operated by straight rods, connected with the pistons of horizontal hydraulic cylinders, of five inches diameter, attached to the sides of the keel. Accordingly the steering gear will be placed ten feet below water-line.

The gun from which the torpedo is fired is placed on the bottom of the forward part of the vessel, the muzzle terminating in the stern 7 feet below the water surface. Water is prevented from running into the gun by an outboard valve, opened and closed automatically. A small quantity of water rushes into the gun between the discharge of the torpedo and the closing of the valve, which is allowed to run into the bilge through the breech and pumped out with a steam syphon. The projectile, with its charge of 250 pounds of dynamite, is first put into the gun, and in the space between the tail of the projectile and the breech of the gun is put the charge of gunpowder. The breech is then closed, and when the Destroyer is within 300 or 400 feet of the enemy's vessel the gunpowder is ignited by electricity and almost at the same instant the projectile has struck the hostile vessel below the water line and destroyed her, the torpedo having been discharged by concussion alone. The initial velocity with which the projectile leaves the gun is 250 feet per second. With minimum charges of powder, in recent experiments, the projectile traversed the first 310 feet in three seconds. In all of the experiments which have been made, common cord nettings have been

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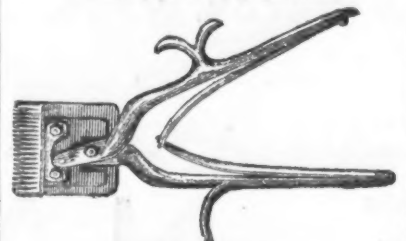
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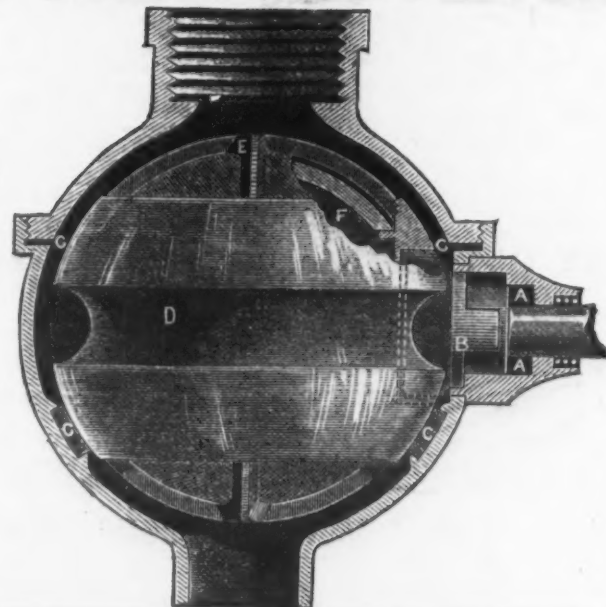
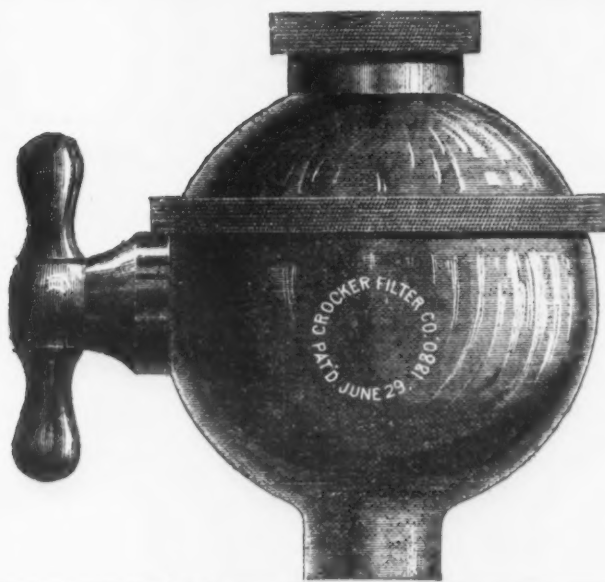
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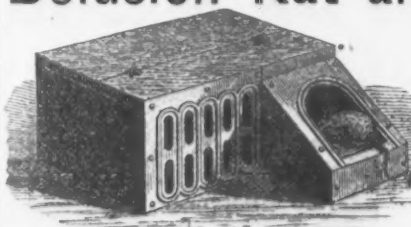
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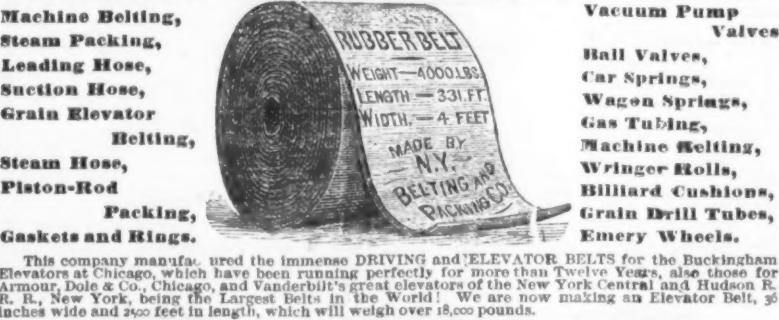
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Pat. 654.
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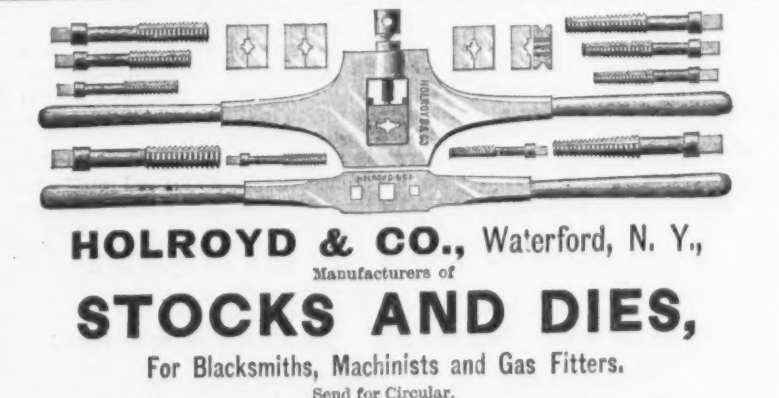
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This practical and indispensable article—especially for wear where exposed to ice, snow, or slush—was first introduced by this company several years ago, and its real value is in being almost indestructible, when proper materials are used in its manufacture, whilst the cheap, inferior quality forced on the public by reckless imitators of our patent goods soon becomes brittle and crumbles to pieces.

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This Hose is in use in over 300 Fire Departments; weighs but 58 pounds to the section of 50 feet; will stand a pressure of 400 pounds to the square inch; guaranteed for three years; will retain its strength for many years. We have many testimonials showing continuous service for nine years, where the hose is in good condition for fire service.
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ies, this plan is not practicable, as hardening and tempering by heat and water will not restore the stiffness of the wire. But with steel wire it is better to use the wire in an annealed form, making the spring just as it is to be in its finished state, and then tempering it, a process which is described further on.

It is a comparatively easy matter to make a close or expanding coiled wire spring in the lathe. The size of the core rod having been determined, all that is necessary is to keep the winding wire close to the previous coil, and this can be done by hand feeding and guiding. The rod on which the spring is wound is placed on the lathe centers, and one end of the wire secured in the dog end, when the lathe may be started on a slow speed, the wire being led to it by hand. This is a handy way also to form rings, the coil being cut apart either with a file or cold chisel.

But in forming open or compression springs, there must be greater care employed. The stiffest open spring from a certain size of wire is that which has the interstices of the same space as the wire's diameter; so, such a spring—or rather two of them—may be formed by winding two wires at the same time, making a close spring, doubled. When completed, one is unscrewed from the other. A more open spring may be guided by means of a thin piece of iron with a hole large enough to receive the core on which the spring is wound, the hole being in one end of the piece and the other having a handle attached. A small hole should be made through the piece close to the large hole to receive the wire. In operation the guide is slipped on the core spindle up to the dog end, the wire passed through the small hole and secured by the dog. Then start the lathe, holding the guide close against the rotating core, pulling toward the operator, and the wire, passing through the small hole in the guide from one side, winds against the guide on the other. It is evident that the thickness of the guide will determine the width between the coils. A still better way of forming an open spring is to use an engine lathe with screw-cutting feed. With this the grade of the spring may be determined with great accuracy.

Sometimes it is necessary to close the ends of close coiled springs, so as to make a central pull by means of hooks or loops. There is machinery to do this with rapidity, but for ordinary jobs hand work is sufficient. The closing is effected by a gradual reduction of the diameter of the coils at the ends of the spring. Unless the wire is very rigid and obstinate, repeated blows with a mallet, a lead hammer or a copper hammer will do the work satisfactorily. The open end of the spring should be held at an angle on the bench block and the hammer wielded, striking backward toward the held end of the spring, the spring being turned in the hand in the direction of the coiling. Before the end is closed, a looped piece of wire should be introduced to form a holder for the end of the spring, the projecting end of the looped wire to be formed into a hook or ring.

Large springs of large wire (which form its size and rigidity) that cannot be managed during winding by the hand, should be made on a contrivance similar in principle, build and operation to the tire tenders in the blacksmith shop, or the pipe formers in a tin shop. These consist of two rolls to give a forward motion to the material and another to give the curvature. In spring forming the modifications consist in substituting narrow wheels with a V or segmental groove on their peripheries for the two rolls which receive the wire, and a guide instead of the back roll to produce curvature. The two grooved wheels should be geared together, so as to turn in opposite directions, and the guide should be a curved piece, standing at an angle to the axial rotation of the rolls or wheels. And this guide should be capable of being set up to the rolls or moved back from them, to determine the diameter of the coil, and should also be capable of being inclined from a vertical position, more or less, to make a close or open spring. The guide should have a lip on its working edge to guide the wire. With such a contrivance coiled springs of steel rod a quarter of an inch and more in diameter may be readily formed.

Sometimes a weak spring is required where a flat forged spring would be costly. In this case a piece of stiff wire of hard brass or unannealed iron may do the work when coiled two or three times around a core, the coiled portion forming the spring, leaving ends to be formed into loops or secured by screw, or left to act on the movable attachment it is to actuate, as a pawl. The principle of such a spring is seen in an extreme form in the U, or main spring, of a gun lock. In this spring the two long arms have little to do with its action, the spring or life being wholly in the curve between the two arms. The wire spring has its curve in one or more complete circles.

Coiled springs of steel wire are tempered by heating them in a box or piece of gas-pipe, in which they are packed with bone dust or animal charcoal, precisely as though they were to be heated for case-hardening. If a piece of gas pipe is used, which is very handy in such work, one end should be closed by a screw plug or cap, and the open end luted with clay. When sufficiently heated—the box or pipe deep red—remove the spring or plunge spring and its receptacle together into a bath of animal oil. Do not attempt water hardening or the use of crude petroleum. If common whale oil is not handy, melt lard and use it while it is liquid. The wire will be sufficiently hard to require drawing. This should be done by putting the spring in a shallow pan, with tallow or animal oil, over the forge fire, and agitate the pan and its contents until the oil takes fire. Take the springs out, and when the oil is burned off cool them in water.

A Brave Spanish Miner.—An act of distinguished gallantry was recently performed in one of the principal mines in the mining district of Linares, in Spain. Three miners were engaged in sinking a shaft, and after charging the bore-holes with dynamite two of them climbed to the gallery above, the third, as is customary, remaining behind to light the fuses attached to the charges.

Having done so, he signaled to his comrades, and was in the act of being hoisted up with a windlass and rope, when, on nearing the mouth of the shaft, he by some accident lost his hold and fell a distance of 50 feet to the bottom of the shaft, where he lay stunned and disabled, in close proximity to the burning fuses. A chain ladder fortunately communicated with the bottom of the shaft, and on observing the fall, one of the miners at the windlass, placing his drawn knife between his teeth, went down without a moment's hesitation to the rescue of his injured comrade, and severed the fuses as they were on the point of igniting the charges, thus saving both from an awful and instantaneous death.

Iron Steamboats for New York Waters.

The Philadelphia North American says: When the announcement was made that a company had been formed with a capital of \$10,000,000 for the building and the operating of 15 or 20 iron excursion steamboats between New York city and the various summer resorts like Coney Island, Long Branch and Manhattan Beach, it was regarded as a pretty scheme on paper, but the men behind it, such as Rufus Hatch, John Rosch, Charles H. Cramp and others equally well known, meant business, and the Iron Steamboat Company of New Jersey was the practical result. Of late there have been frequent meetings of the Board of Directors, and the project has gone so far toward accomplishment that contracts for the construction of six steamers have been properly signed, and others will rapidly follow. The probabilities are that the work of building this numerous fleet will be about equally divided between Rosch and the Messrs. Cramp. Up to this time each of the parties have secured three. The contracts call for the delivery of this first batch complete by the middle of June. The boats will all be built upon the same model, which is an advancement upon the prevailing style of this class of marine architecture. They will cost about \$250,000 each, and have the capacity of carrying from 1000 to 1200 passengers. The load line will be 200 feet in length, beam 32 feet, and depth of hold 12 feet. The side-wheels, which will be made of iron, will be driven by one engine, 52-inch cylinder and 11 feet stroke, with walking beam. The arrangements to insure safety from risk of collision are complete, and each vessel will be divided into several water-tight compartments. The means taken to guard against fire will also greatly lessen the chances of horrors from that direction. The boats will be very fast, the contracts calling for a speed of 20 miles per hour. This performance will enable them to successfully rival any steamboats now about New York, and consequently will make the company solid with the traveling and pleasure-seeking public. They will be fitted out as summer steamers, and during the excursion season will ply between Gotham and Coney Island, Long Branch, Manhattan Beach and points on the Hudson River and Long Island Sound. The material to be used in the construction of the hull will be iron of the first quality, and the craft will thus easily take the first rate. The contracts already given out will be speedily followed by others, and during the coming winter at least 12 will be built. But the company will not stop with that number. Others will be made next spring. The idea is to ultimately extend the operations of the company to other cities. The proposition is to utilize the boats in the winter by running them in Southern waters, such as between Savannah and Florida and other points where the business will warrant their operations. A gentleman who is financially interested in the company, in conversing about the subject last evening, said that there are now some 90 steamboats running out of New York, the majority of which are worn out and unsafe. It is positively known that many of them will be refused a certificate by the United States Steamboat Inspectors the coming season, and their owners will thereby be forced to withdraw them. This fact has been taken advantage of by the new company, and the public are to be congratulated, since there will be a heavy decrease in the crop of disasters from fire, collisions and boiler explosions, which the people of New York so justly complain of. The building of these steamers will give the mechanics employed at Chester and at Cramp's certain employment away into next summer.

New York's First Railroad.—It is less than fifty years since the first railroad was built in the State of New York. On the 20th day of July, 1830, ground was broken for the construction of a line by the Mohawk and Hudson Railroad Company, that had been incorporated by an act of the Legislature on the 17th day of April, 1826. About the 20th of July, 1831, twelve and one-half miles of the road had been completed, and on the 27th of the same month a locomotive, the De Witt Clinton, was placed upon the track. It was built by the West Point Foundry. Another locomotive had been ordered from Stephenson of England, which was placed upon the road on the 17th of September. A trial of the first locomotive was not successful. It was found defective in the capacity of the boiler, and portions had to be returned to the foundry for improvement. The road was formally opened by a grand excursion over the line on the 24th of September, 1831. Just as the company was about to start, the feed pipe of the English locomotive (the Robert Fulton) broke, and horses were substituted tandem. The train consisted of two cars. The three cars composing the other train were drawn by the De Witt Clinton. The locomotive made the return trip with all five cars in thirty-five minutes. The completion of this road was accomplished in the spring of 1832, the cars first used being coach bodies placed upon trucks and supported by thorough braces, in the manner of stages. The termini at Albany and Schenectady were inclined planes worked by stationary engines, and the cars were drawn up by means of a large rope, and balanced by a car loaded with stone descending the opposite track. This road was the first built in this State, and is now a part of the New York Central and Hudson River Railway.

The Iron Age

AND
Metallurgical Review.

New York, Thursday, November 25, 1880.

DAVID WILLIAMS . . . Publisher and Proprietor.
JAMES C. BAYLES . . . Editor.
JOHN S. KING . . . Business Manager.

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Owing to the occurrence of a general
holiday on Thursday of this week, we send
The Iron Age to press a day earlier than
usual. The appointment of one day in the
year for Thanksgiving had its origin in Colo-
nial days, and was the outgrowth of the
profound religious spirit of the time. To a
great extent Thanksgiving Day has lost its
original character as a religious holiday, and
is now largely celebrated in a secular way;
but it is an institution deserving of perpetu-
ation. This year those who are so disposed
can find a great deal to be thankful for in a
retrospect of the happenings of the past
twelve months. The general condition of
the country and the outlook for the near
future are matters for congratulation among
all classes of citizens. We are at peace with
ourselves and all the world, our national
credit was never so firmly established, the
policy of the government for the next four

years will be shaped in the interest of do-
mestic producers, labor is more largely and
profitably employed than it has been at any
time for years past, trade is in a satisfac-
tory condition, all classes of the community
are enjoying a substantial prosperity, and
nothing seriously menaces the welfare of
the nation. Even those who refuse to re-
cognize the hand of an overruling Providence
in human affairs, must admit that the im-
proved condition of the country has been
brought about by the operation of forces be-
yond individual, party or governmental con-
trol, and we shall sacrifice nothing of self-
respect or the respect of others in feeling
and expressing thankfulness for the sub-
stantial improvement which has taken place
within a year.

The World's Merchant Navy.

The changes in tonnage, as well as in
the number, of vessels of seafaring nations
have been so great during the past four years
that a few statistics showing the entire
movement will be found of interest:

THE WORLD'S MERCHANT MARINE.

July 1st.	Sailing vessels.	Reg'd red tons.	Stms.	Registered tons.	
				Gross.	Net.
1877..	51,912	14,799,130	5,471	3,507,699	3,595,185
1878..	49,329	14,316,054	5,463	5,595,175	3,650,735
1879..	49,015	14,103,604	5,897	6,179,935	4,001,869
1880..	48,584	13,872,881	6,392	6,745,198	4,401,751

During the four years—1877 to 1880—the
aggregate tonnage of sailing vessels de-
creased about 925,000 tons, or 6 per cent.,
but the net tonnage of steamers increased
about 800,000 tons, or 22 per cent.

This change is easily explained when we
come to consider that a steamer, by reason
of greater swiftness and regularity in nav-
igating, is capable of conveying in a given
time about three times the quantity of goods
and passengers which a sailing vessel of
equal size can forward. Under these circum-
stances, it is not surprising that with in-
creased facilities of transportation, sailing-
vessel freights should gradually have been
depressed to a point where profit to the
owner has become less and less frequent.
These and former statistics we have given
sufficiently show that sailing vessels are
steadily declining in number and aggregate
tonnage, and that with few exceptions,
chiefly in the case of Norway (for reasons
we have before explained), this tendency is
observable in all countries.

But while this decrease in sailing vessels
is pretty nearly universal, the increase in
steamers is not so under each flag to an equal
extent, for all nations do not possess the
means of buying or the facilities for building
them. The consequence is that a great
revolution is taking place in the carrying
trade of the world, which becomes more
and more concentrated in the hands of a
few leading maritime nations. This will be
seen in the following table:

Flag.	Sailing vessels.		Steamers.	
	Inc.	Dec.	Inc.	Dec.
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British.	49,329	14,316,054	5,471	5,507,699
American.	88,391	24,316,054	5,469	5,595,175
German.	277	289,499	205,329	135,814
French.	166	128,720	83,534	80,529
Italian.	113	118,260	72,813	69,292
Swedish.	258	98,969	69,292	69,292
Danish.	83	93,149	69,114	69,114
Norwegian.	200	74,957	47,544	47,544
Belgian.	148	67,430	49,967	49,967
South American.	40	64,773	44,747	44,747
Asiatic.	87	61,198	40,401	40,401
Egyptian.	31	38,964	24,810	24,810
Portuguese.	16	18,219	11,559	11,559
Greek.	20	14,237	9,526	9,526
Turkish.	10	8,866	5,570	5,570
Central American.	10	4,579	3,868	3,868
Tunisian.	1	1,067	726	726
Roumanian.	1	166	211	211
Sundry nations.	5	9,552	6,302	6,302
Total.	6,434	6,745,198	4,407,741	4,407,741

REGISTRATION.		Steamers.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Increase.	231	64,047	919
Decrease.	1,186	305,638	7
Net Increase.	955	447,581	912

The increase in sailing vessels under the
German and Russian flags is due in part
to transfers from the Peruvian flag to
these nationalities while the war on the
Pacific lasts, and in part to some sailing
vessels having been built and bought by
Bremen merchants for the increasing petro-
leum trade. The Turkish increase under
the same head is owing to re-transfer of ves-
sels which had temporarily quitted the
Turkish flag while the Turks were at war
with Russia and her allies. Many of these
vessels, if not most of them, sought shelter
under the Greek flag, which explains to
some extent the decrease of the latter dur-
ing the past two years.

The general increase of steamers will be
noticed. Since 1870 the increase in steamers
has been 22½ per cent. under the British flag,
25 per cent. under the French, 27 per cent. un-
der the Norwegian, and 17½ per cent. un-
der the German flag. Most of these steamers
have been built in England, but in Germany
and France a good many large steamers have
been constructed and fitted out during the last
few years. In the German yards there are
now nearly all the time some twenty iron
steamers building, some of them of 2500 tons
measurement, for the transatlantic trade.

In France the building and buying of
steamers is likely to receive a great impulse,
in consequence of the premium which the
government allows henceforward. In Italy
there are some facilities for building them,
but there is a lack of capital, and, besides,
Italy has no coal of her own, which is a
great drawback.

The next few years are likely to exhibit
some further great changes in the sense
indicated by the above statistics.

The world's mercantile steam fleet is at
present the following:

Flag.	Tonnage.		
	Steam- ers.	Gross.	Net.
British.	3,787	4,265,610	3,773,089
American.	348	634,592	359,937
French.	315	483,767	277,781
German.	277	289,499	205,329
Spanish.	266	205,498	135,814
Dutch.	166	128,720	83,534
Italian.	113	118,260	72,813
Swedish.	258	98,969	69,292
Danish.	83	93,149	69,114
Norwegian.	200	74,957	47,544
Belgian.	148	67,430	49,967
South American.	40	64,773	44,747
Asiatic.	87	61,198	40,401
Egyptian.	31	38,964	24,810
Portuguese.	16	18,219	11,559
Greek.	20	14,237	9,526
Turkish.	10	8,866	5,570
Central American.	10	4,579	3,868
Tunisian.	1	1,067	726
Roumanian.	1	166	211
Sundry nations.	5	9,552	6,302
Total.	6,434	6,745,198	4,407,741

Patents and Improvements.

A good many manufacturers live in a state
of perpetual trouble and anxiety with regard
to their patents and their liability to the
owners of other patents. Naturally, we
are in receipt of frequent letters asking for
information and advice in patent matters,
and as we are rarely able to give the former
and never the latter, we cannot use a por-
tion of our space more profitably than in
giving those of our readers for whom the
subject has interest, such general informa-
tion with regard to the elementary princi-
ples of patent law as will enable them to
discover that it is not at all mysterious, but
rests upon a broad basis of equity. For
anything more than this they would do well
to consult counsel.

It is an infringement of a patent to either
make, or sell, or use, without legal permit,
anything which forms the subject matter of
any claim or clause of claim in a valid
patent.

The intent to infringe is not necessary,
and the patentee need not notify an in-
fringer before bringing suit.

A mere workman for the real party in in-
terest is not an infringer, but if one party
were to hire another to make or use
patented things, both would be held in-
fringers.

The sale of the materials for making a
patented invention, as such, and with no
license, expressed or implied, to use the in-
vention, is not an infringement.

In proceeding to determine whether a cer-
tain article is an infringement of a patent,
it must be compared separately with each
clause of claim in the patent; for, if any
clause of the claim is infringed, the patent
is infringed. The claim is the vital part of
a patent, and no matter whether the actual
invention be greater or less, the question of
infringement is to be determined upon the
claim; for a patentee must stand or fall by
the claim he makes.

The thing described and claimed in the
patent and another thing are held to be sub-
stantially identical if the same result is at-
tained by the same or equivalent means.

A claim is generally, if not always, for a
specific thing, or for a combination of dif-
ferent elements; and, having determined which
the claim is for, it must then be determined
whether the thing to be compared with the
patent has all the parts or qualities which
the claim makes essential; and, if such thing
have not all these parts, then it does not in-
fringe. Form, size and material are not
generally essentials, but they may be. In
any case, it matters not what names are
given to parts of a device; the real ques-
tion is: Do the parts compared perform the
same office in substantially the same way?

It is not an infringement of a claim for a
combination to make or use or sell any of
the elements of the combination less than
the whole, but additions to a combination
will not avoid an infringement, and a
man cannot use another's patented inven-
tion simply because he has made an im-
provement upon it. That a device works
better or worse than the patented device,
is not generally decisive of substantial dif-
ference.

If a specific thing is claimed, or if an ele-
ment of a combination is in a new field of
invention, and is the first of its kind, a court
will give the doctrine of equivalents its
broadest application as related to such new
thing; but if the specific thing, or the ele-
ment of a combination, is itself new only
in degree—an improvement upon some prior
existing thing for the same purpose—then
the court will hold only those things sub-
stantially identical therewith which are
more colorable evasions or obvious substi-
tutes therefor.

To constitute an infringement, it is not
always necessary that a person should tech-
nically infringe the claim. Where a party
had a patent for a combination of a lamp
burner and a lamp chimney, and another
party made and sold only the burner, the
judge held such makers of the burners in-
fringers; and where one party had a pa-
tent on a cartridge, and another party made
and sold guns designed for firing this car-
tridge, the gunmaker was held an infringer.
In these and similar cases the intent is of
importance.

Suits for infringement can be brought

only in the name of the owner or owners of
the patent right for the district or territory
where the infringement is committed. As-
signees of the whole patent, or grantees of
particular districts, may bring suit in their
own names, but licensees cannot. The li-
censee is the proper person to bring suit for
injury, in the nature of infringement, to the
rights of the licensee.

Suits for infringement may be either on
the case at law or by a bill of complaint in
equity. If the suit be brought to the equity
side of the court, the complainant may, if
he be entitled, get a preliminary or pro-
visional injunction upon a mere motion. He
is not compelled to go into the question of
the amount of damages until the court has
settled the question of the validity of the
patent and the question of infringement;
and a perpetual injunction issues against the
defendant, as a matter of course, upon a
finding by the court that the patent is valid
and has been infringed. In suits at law,
injunctions must be had by separate process,
and in the trial of the case is involved the
question of damages.

All suits for infringement of patents must
be brought in United States courts.

Two things must concur to give a United
States court jurisdiction—the offense of in-
fringement must be committed and the pro-
cess served upon the infringer within the
territorial limits of the district in which the
court has jurisdiction.

When in the course of an equity suit, the
court, on final hearing upon pleadings and
proofs, finds that the patent is valid and
that it has been infringed, the court grants,
as a matter of course, a perpetual injunction
against the infringer, and, if the party thus
enjoined further infringes in defiance of
such injunction, he can be committed to jail
for contempt of court. The same kind of
injunction will be issued by the equity side
of a court when a like finding has been made
in a suit at law.

Provisional injunctions are asked for at
the commencement or during the progress of
a suit, with the intent that the defendant
may be restrained from infringing until the
plaintiff's right to a perpetual injunction is
determined. Courts will not, as a general
rule, however, grant a provisional injunction,
unless there has been some previous adju-
dication sustaining the patent, where the
same points of validity and infringement
were in issue, or unless there has been a
long and undisputed enjoyment of the pa-
tent privilege, and the plaintiff is able to
make it appear that the defendant's device
and his own are substantially identical.

Where a provisional injunction would
operate unjustly upon the defendant, or
where it would cause him irreparable injury,
while the plaintiff could have ample satis-
faction in money damages, the provisional
injunction will be refused.

Where the plaintiffs are in the habit of
granting licenses under their patent, the
court will sometimes refuse a provisional in-
junction, unless defendants refuse to take
and pay for a license.

The court will sometimes order that the
defendants keep an account of profits and
give bond for payment of damages pending
the continuance of the suit. If the plaintiff
is in the habit of granting licenses, relying
wholly or mainly upon them to make the
patent profitable, then the usual price of
such a license will be taken as the damages
to be found. In other cases the rule is to
give the plaintiff such damages as will fully
remunerate him for the loss caused him by
the infringer. If the plaintiff's actual loss be
greater than the defendant's profits, the
plaintiff may collect as damages such excess
of loss, together with the defendant's
profits. In an accounting before a master-
in-chancery, the defendant is compelled to
disclose what his actual profits have been.
The defeated party in a suit has to pay the
legal costs, but counsel fees are not included
therein.

In any action for infringement the de-
fendant may plead the general issue, and,
having given notice in writing to the plain-
tiff or his attorney 30 days before, may
prove on trial any one or more of the fol-
lowing special matters:

1. That for the purpose of deceiving the
public, the description and specification was
made to contain less than the whole truth
relative to the invention, or more than is
necessary to produce the desired effect.
2. Prior invention.
3. Prior publication.
4. Prior use.
5. Public use for more than two years
prior to application, or abandonment to the
public.

The defendant may also charge that the
specification is uncertain and ambiguous in
the description of the claim, that a combi-
nation is a mere aggregation, that the plain-
tiff is not the legal owner of the patent, that
the plaintiff has unreasonably delayed to file
a disclaimer, or that there is a total lack of
utility in the alleged invention. There are
other special defenses.

It is for the court to say what the patentee
claims and what he does not claim; whether
there is ambiguity in the claim; whether or
not two patents claim the same thing;
whether the actual invention claimed is of
a kind to be patentable, as a machine;
and also whether the invention has statutory
utility—that is any utility, in contradistinc-
tion from being frivolous, or insignificant,
or pernicious in its purpose.

We believe this a fair and correct synop-
sis of the law defining the nature of in-
fringements, the rights of patentees as

against infringers, and the legal proceedings
by which the rights of patentees are de-
fended.

The early completion of the railway sys-
tem which is to bring Arizona and New
Mexico into closer connection with the East,
appears likely to introduce new and vigor-
ous competitors into our copper markets.
Both of the territories are known to possess
very extensive and rich deposits of copper
ore, which are now attracting capital from
the East as well as from the Pacific slope.
A determined effort will probably be made
to render this mineral region productive.
Judging from the reports received, even
after making an allowance for the enthu-
siasm of promoters and prospectors, there is
good reason to believe that the output of the
new copper districts will make itself felt
in our markets at an early date. The sur-
face ores, principally oxides and car-
bonates, are reduced with ease by a simple
smelting process. Until now, excessive
freights for fuel and product, and high rates
of labor, have stood in the way of any de-
velopment. This state of affairs is not likely
to continue long; in fact, actual work has
begun, and we are assured that even during
the present year a production estimated at
from five to eight millions of pounds of
copper will be reached, the entire output
being that of the last few months. As yet
the copper must be sent to San Francisco
and shipped to market around the Horn or
via Panama, to be refined here; but this
question of transportation will soon be satis-
factorily solved. How far the known pres-
ence of silver and gold in the ores will affect
the returns cannot yet be said, as develop-
ments are not sufficiently well advanced.
Should it be possible, as there are some indi-
cations, to extract even small amounts of
the precious metals with profit, there will be
placed in the hands of Arizona producers an
additional means of meeting low prices and
making concessions for inferiority of quality,
as it is not claimed that the copper produced
by elaborate smelting and refining processes
will grade as high as the virgin metal from
Lake Superior.

The boot and shoe manufacturers appear
to be determined to test the legality of
the patents held by Mr. Gordon McKay
on sewing machinery. They organized re-
cently at Philadelphia, and had an inter-
view with the inventor, whose principal
patent expires at an early date, but who in-
sists upon claiming royalties in the future
for a number of improvements. During the
discussion of the subject a matter was
brought up which is of interest generally to
both inventors and manufacturers. The
McKay Sewing Machine Company manufac-
ture their patented machines and sell them to
shoe manufacturers in this country at a spec-
ified price. In Canada, however, they place
them on the market at considerably lower
figures, thus discriminating against Ameri-
can manufacturers. This course they are
forced to adopt in order to compete with
rival sewing machine manufacturers in
Canada, against whose imitations they have
no other remedy than sharp underselling,
because the McKay sewing machine is not
patented in the Dominion. No one will
deny their right to shape their business
policy in this way under the existing
circumstances, but the case clearly reveals
the possibility of a state of affairs which may
prove very awkward both to an inventor
and to his licensees. The neglect to secure
patent rights in Canada may lead to a loss
of a good market in that country, and may
even invite successful competition from the
manufacturers of that quarter, owing to
their being exempt from license fees, which
are often excessive. In such cases American
makers will justly claim concessions which
they would not otherwise have asked for,
and the benefits of an American inventor
may thus be considerably reduced. In jus-
tice to his licensees, and for the sake of his
own interests, he is bound to do his utmost
to secure protection in that quarter.

The Chief of the Bureau of Statistics fur-
nishes the following information in regard
to immigration into the United States: There
arrived in the Customs districts of Baltimore,
Boston, Detroit, Huron, Minnesota, New
Bedford, New Orleans, New York, Passama-
quoddy, Philadelphia and San Francisco
during the month ended October 31, 1880,
69,808 passengers, of whom 61,312 were im-
migrants, 5995 citizens of the United States
returned from abroad, and 2591 aliens not
intending to reside in the United States. Of
this total number of immigrants there arrived
from England 6665; Wales, 110; Scotland,
1388; Ireland, 5705; Germany, 17,059;
Austria, 1555; Sweden, 3486; Norway,
1453; Denmark, 950; France, 551; Swit-
zerland, 922; Spain, 79; Holland, 230;
Belgium, 141; Italy, 1051; Russia, 352;
Poland, 184; Hungary, 481; Finland, 14;
Dominion of Canada, 17,517; China, 474;
Australasia, 81; Mexico, 33; Portugal, 82;
Azores, 79; and from all other countries 70.

To judge from the action of two distinct
bodies which held meetings recently at St.
Louis and New Orleans, respectively, it is cer-
tain that something should be done to improve
the navigation of the Mississippi River and its
principal tributaries. The only question
now appears to be by whom it shall be done.
The first great step has been accomplished
by the successful creation of a deep channel
through the South Pass by the Eads jetty
system. Two conventions now urge that the
good work thus begun be prosecuted with

energy by the government. There is now pending before Congress a bill providing for such work, based upon the report and specifications of a commission of engineers and experts. This bill should receive prompt and careful consideration, as it involves large and important interests. With an additional and cheap outlet to sea, the prosperity of the Mississippi Valley States, and with them that of the whole country, would receive strong and lasting impetus.

Probably the change in the weather within the past few days will have a beneficial effect upon general trade. An early frost quickens distribution in nearly all lines of trade. There is nothing unreasonable in a cold wave in the last half of November, but when warm weather lasts until December, as it sometimes does, trade is more or less congested, and the later distribution never quite compensates for the loss of impetus at the outset.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL.

Prof. S. P. Langley, of Allegheny, has devised an instrument which will probably prove a useful one for the physicist and astronomer.

THE THERMAL BALANCE,

as he calls it, is intended to serve for delicate investigations of radial heat. Melloni's thermopile, although known for upward of 50 years, has been little improved, and is unfit for solving such problems as the measurement of the distribution of radiant energy in a pure spectrum when the rays have not passed through any prism. No accurate results could be obtained by Prof. Langley with the thermopile. He was forced to invent a more sensitive instrument for this special investigation, and, having done so, he believed it would be of general utility. The principle of the new apparatus has been applied by Dr. Siemens and others to other purposes. Prof. Langley spent several months in making it, as he hoped, a useful working tool for the physicist and the physical astronomer. It is founded on the principle that if a wire conveying an electric current be heated, less electricity flows through it than before. If two such wires, carrying equal currents from a powerful battery, meet in a recording apparatus (the galvanometer), the index of the instrument—pushed in two ways by exactly opposite forces—will remain at rest. If one current be diminished by warming ever so little the wire which conveys it, the other current gets the upper hand and the index swings with a force due, not directly to the feeble heat which warmed the wire, but to the power of the battery which this feeble heat controls. The application of this principle is thus made: Iron or steel is rolled into sheets of extreme thinness, like those of steel made at the works of Miller & Parkin, Pittsburgh, Pa., of which it took 8000 to make the thickness of an inch. Of platinum sheets rolled at the Philadelphia mint, 50 laid one on another did not, together, equal the thickness of light tissue paper. Minute strips, one thirty-second of an inch wide and one-quarter of an inch long, cut from this were united so as to form a prominent part of the circuit, through which a current of a powerful battery passed to the galvanometer. Experiment proved that an almost inconceivably minute warming of a set of these strips would reduce the passage of the electricity so as to produce very large indications on the registering instrument.

Prof. Langley had, in the course of his experiments, thus far, he said, found iron the most advantageous, though other metals were still under trial. The instrument thus formed was from ten to thirty times more sensitive than the most delicate thermopile; but this was almost a secondary advantage compared with its great precision and the readiness with which it is used. The thermopile is very slow in its action. This new instrument, the thermal balance, takes up the heat and parts with it again in a single second. It is almost as prompt as the human eye itself. To show its accuracy, Prof. Langley gave experiments which proved that the probable error of a single measurement made with the instrument could be reduced within 1 per cent. of the amount to be measured. To show its sensitiveness the statement was made that it would register a change in the temperature of the iron strips, just described, which did not exceed 150,000 part of a Fahrenheit degree. When mounted in a reflecting telescope it would record the heat of a man or other animal in a distant field. It would do this equally well in the night, and might be said, in a certain sense, to give the power of seeing in the dark. A more valuable proof of its efficiency was shown in a series of measurements of the heat of the moon, made under varied circumstances, to guard against error, but each made in a few seconds. All agreed in showing that the least immeasurably minute amount of heat from the moon could be certainly measured by it, even with a common refracting telescope.

Prof. Silliman has called attention to the turquoise of New Mexico, and the circumstances which point to its origin. The turquoise mines of New Mexico are found at Mt. Chalchuitl, in Los Cerillos, about 22 miles southwest of the ancient town of Santa Fe. The rocks which form Mt. Chalchuitl—the Indian name of the turquoise—are distinguished from those of the surrounding and associated ranges of the Cerillos by their white color and decomposed appearance, closely resembling tuff and kaolin, and giving evidence of an extensive and profound alteration, due, probably, to the escape through them, at this point, of heated vapor of water, and perhaps of other vapors or gases, by the action of which the original crystalline structure of the mass has been completely decomposed or metamorphosed, with the production of new chemical compounds. Among these the turquoise is the most conspicuous and important. In the seams and cavities of this yellowish-white and kaolin-like tuffaceous rock the turquoise is found in thin veins and little balls or concretions called "nuggets," cov-

ered on the exterior with a crust of the nearly white tuff, and showing on cross fracture the less valued varieties of the gem, more rarely offering fine sky-blue stones of higher value for ornamental purposes. It is easy to see these blue stains in every direction among these decomposed rocks, but the turquoise in masses of any commercial value is extremely rare, and many tons of the rock may be broken without finding a single stone which a jeweler or virtuoso would value as a gem. The origin of the turquoise of Los Cerillos, in view of late observations, is not doubtful. Chemically, it is a hydrous aluminum phosphate. Its blue color is due to a variable quantity of copper oxide derived from associated rocks. The Cerillos turquoise contains 3.81 per cent. of this metal. Neglecting this constituent the formula for turquoise requires: Phosphoric acid, 32.6; alumina, 47.0; water, 20.5; total, 100.1. Evidently the decomposition of the feldspar of the trachyte has furnished the alumina, while the phosphate of lime, which the microscope detects in the thin sections of the Cerillos rocks, has furnished the phosphoric acid. A little copper is diffused as a constituent also of the veins of this region, and hence the color which the metal imparts. The inspection of thin sections of the turquoise by the microscope with a high power, shows the seemingly homogeneous mass of this compact and non-crystalline mineral to consist of very minute scales, nearly colorless, and having an aggregate polarization, and showing a few particles of iron oxide. The rocks in which the turquoise occurs are seen by the aid of the microscope and polarized light in thin section to be plainly only the ruins, as it were, of crystalline trachytes showing remnants of feldspar crystals, decomposed in part into a white kaolin-like substance, with mica and glassy grains, quartz, with large fluidal inclusions, looking like a secondary product. There is a considerable diversity in their looks, but they may all be classed as trachyte-tuffs, and are doubtless merely the result of the crystalline rocks of the district along the line of volcanic fissures.

At a meeting of the National Academy of Sciences in this city, Prof. Agassiz read a paper

ON THE ORIGIN OF THE CORAL REEFS OF THE YUCATAN AND FLORIDA BANKS.

He said Darwin tried to show that the production of atolls is to be ascribed to the subsidence by slow degrees of the foundations on which they rest. This theory did not hold good with regard to the coral reefs and atolls to be met with on the eastern slope of the Windward Islands, to the north of Cuba, south of Florida and in an easterly direction from Yucatan. In order to clearly understand how a submarine plateau can be built up sufficiently near the surface to form a foundation on which reef-forming corals might live, it is necessary to pay attention to the various organisms which live from the surface down to about 100 fathoms. In calm weather they swarm near the surface, but when it is rough they are to be found several fathoms beneath the waves. They are borne along by the great oceanic currents which are created by the winds, and supply the corals on the outer edge of the reefs with abundant food. When these surface animals die, either by coming in contact with colder water or from other causes, their shells and skeletons fall to the bottom, and carry down with them some organic matter which gives a supply of food to deeper animals. The great equatorial currents find their way through the numerous loopholes in the Windward Islands, and carry with them the greater portion of this Pelagic food. Upon entering the Caribbean Sea, the Gulf Stream takes up these varieties of Pelagic foraminifera and deposits them in the places where the Yucatan and Florida Banks are to be found. In shallower depths, as in this case on the top of submarine elevations or volcanic formations, the accumulations of dead siliceous shells is very rapid. The action of sea water has scarcely any checking effect. The growth of these deposits, favored by the presence of carbonate of lime in ocean water and its consequent reduction to bicarbonate by carbonic acid, eventually reaches that height at which coral reefs may exist. All the soundings made of late in these latitudes tend to confirm this view. On the other hand, it would be difficult to conceive how these submerged banks could have been produced by subsidence, situated as they are in relation to each other. It is a much more natural view to regard these atolls and submerged banks as originally volcanoes reaching to various heights beneath the sea, and which have subsequently been built up to and toward the surface by accumulations of organic sediment and the growth of coral on their summits.

Lieutenant Schwatka, the Arctic explorer, gives some interesting facts about

THE DURATION OF ARCTIC WINTER.

The generally received opinion that the Arctic winter, especially in the higher latitudes, is a long, dreary one of perfect opaque darkness, is not strictly correct. In latitude 83° 20' 20" N., the highest point ever reached by man, there are 4 hours and 42 minutes of twilight on December 22, the shortest day in the year in the Northern Hemisphere. In latitude 82° 27' N., the highest point where white men have wintered, there are 6 hours and 2 minutes in the shortest day, and 328 geographical miles from that point must yet be attained before the true Plutonic zone, or that one in which there is no twilight whatsoever, even upon the shortest day of the year, can be said to have been entered by man. Of course, about the beginning and ending of this twilight, it is very feeble and easily extinguished by even the slightest mists; but, nevertheless, it exists, and is quite appreciable on clear, cold days, or nights, properly speaking. The North Pole itself is only shrouded in perfect blackness from November 13 to January 29, a period of 77 days. Supposing that the sun has set (supposing a circumpolar sea or body of water unlimited to vision) on September 24, not to rise until March 13 for that particular point, giving a period of about 50 days of uniformly varying twilight, the Pole has about 183 days of continuous daylight, 100 days of varying twilight, and 77 of perfect icy darkness

(save when the moon has a northern declination) in the period of a typical year. During the period of a little over four days the sun shines continuously on both the North and South Poles at the same time, owing to refraction parallax, semi-diameter and dip of the horizon.

Prof. Emerson Reynolds describes a process for

THE PROTECTION OF LEAD AGAINST CORROSION.

by coating it with a film of sulphide of lead. He recommends the following method: Take 16 grams of solid caustic soda, dissolve it in 1.75 liters of water, and add to the liquid 17 grams of nitrate of lead, or an equivalent of other lead salt, with 250 cubic centimeters of water; raise the temperature of the mixture to 90° C. If sufficient lead salt has been added the liquid will remain somewhat turbid after heating, and must then be rapidly strained or filtered through asbestos, glass-wool, or other suitable material, into a convenient vessel. The filtered liquid is then well mixed with 100 cubic centimeters of hot water, containing in solution 4 grams of sulphurea or thiocarbamide. If the temperature of the mixture be maintained at about 70° C., deposition of sulphide of lead or galena, in the form of a fine adherent film or layer, quickly takes place on any object immersed in or covered with the liquid, provided the object be in a perfectly clean condition and suitable for the purpose. When the operation is properly conducted a layer of galena is obtained which is so strongly adherent that it can be easily polished by means of the usual leather polisher. It is not necessary to deposit the galena from hot liquids, but the deposition is more rapid than from cold solutions.

Railway Equipment Manufactured in 1880.

The wonderful activity in the construction of new railways, and the great increase of the business of those already in operation, during the present year, have been impressed upon the notice of every observer. The manufacturers of locomotives, cars, rails and all forms of railway supplies have been, and are still, unable to keep up with the demand, although they have made large additions to their facilities, and in many cases have been obliged to decline orders. Very few persons have any idea of the enormous contribution to the manufacturing industry of the country made by railway companies for their equipment alone—how many tens of thousands of men are employed in constructing additional locomotives and cars, to say nothing of the work of repairing constantly going on, nor how many millions of dollars are scattered by these same great money distributors among the manufacturers. Probably most people know that a very large portion of every railway company's expenditures is for the payment of the employees who conduct its operations, but few consider what an enormous contributor to the manufacturing institutions whose varied products are used in the construction and furnishing of rolling stock every railway is.

In order to obtain some data in regard to this subject we caused to be addressed to the different railway companies a printed blank requesting information as to the number of locomotives and cars of all kinds built or purchased by them since January 1, 1880; and also as to the additional number of each which it was expected to order during the present year. Inquiry was also made as to the amount of steel and iron rails and number of ties used. These inquiries, evidently, were somewhat troublesome to answer, and it was not expected that all of the companies would respond. Thus far replies have been received from 64 companies, including some of the largest and some of the smallest from every part of the country, and representing about 21 per cent. of the total mileage, and from these we have tabulated the following surprising figures: In estimating the values we have rated locomotives at \$5500; passenger cars at \$4000; sleeping cars at \$11,000; baggage and mail cars at \$2800; box cars at \$500; flat cars at \$375; coal cars at \$300—allowing for both large and small—and stock cars at \$245; which will, we think, be considered reasonable. We thus obtain the following, for the period since the 1st of January last:

ADDITIONS REPORTED BY 64 COMPANIES		
Locomotives.....	No.	Estimated value.
.....	335	\$2,847,500
Passenger coaches.....	271	\$1,084,000
Sleeping cars.....	34	264,000
Baggage and mail cars.....	86	240,800
Box cars.....	10,666	5,333,000
Stock cars.....	965	236,625
Flat cars.....	4,457	1,682,525
Coal cars.....	2,107	612,100
Total cars.....	24,773	\$10,809,550
Add value locomotives.....		2,847,500
Total value rolling stock.....		\$13,657,050

Here we have, therefore, over \$13,600,000 already expended this year by these 64 companies for rolling stock alone. As showing that this is by no means the whole of their year's expenditure in this direction, we add their own estimates of further orders during 1880, footing as follows:

EXPECTED TO BE ADDED IN 1880.		
Locomotives.....	No.	Value.
.....	103	\$875,500
Passenger cars.....	24	\$96,000
Baggage and mail cars.....	11	30,800
Box cars.....	3,165	1,582,500
Flat cars.....	667	246,375
Stock cars.....	2,763	681,500
Coal cars.....	39	11,775
Total cars.....	6,593	\$2,783,225
Add value locomotives.....		875,500
Total value.....		\$3,658,725

If these intended additions are all made, it will swell the year's outlay for rolling stock by these companies to some \$17,300,000.

Now, the aggregate mileage of the 64 companies reported is 19,197 miles, probably about 21 per cent. of the present actual railway mileage of the country. While, of course, any figures based upon these can only be approximately correct for the whole railway system, yet it will be allowable to use them in a rough estimate. Taking, therefore, the figures in the first table as representing 21 per cent. of the whole, we make the following grand total:

ESTIMATED ADDITIONS BY ALL COMPANIES AT SAME RATE AS ABOVE.		
Locomotives.....	No.	Estimated value.
.....	1,595	\$13,473,000
Passenger coaches.....	1,290	\$5,160,000
Sleeping cars.....	174	1,254,000
Baggage and mail cars.....	459	1,285,200
Box cars.....	46,980	23,490,000
Stock cars.....	4,595	1,148,775
Flat cars.....	21,221	7,958,645
Coal cars.....	33,809	10,148,700
Total cars.....	68,430	\$32,207,980
Add value locomotives.....		13,473,000

Estimated total value of rolling stock.....\$65,679,920

These figures appear almost incredible. It is hard to believe that nearly 1600 locomotives and over 68,000 cars of all kinds, valued at over \$65,600,000, have already been added by our railways this year, making no account of the additions yet to be made in the proportion suggested by the second table of estimated additions, and yet we believe that these figures are not very far out of the way.

We now take the figures reported to us by the 64 roads, showing the amount of rails and number of ties laid since January 1. The price last January of steel rails was about \$70, and of iron rails about \$55 per ton. The present prices are \$60 and \$47 respectively. Rail was, of course, bought previous to 1880 for much less than these figures, but it was also largely used up in that year, and the rail mills have certainly had enough to do at existing prices. It is perhaps fair, therefore, to figure steel at \$60 and iron at \$45, and we have the following figures:

RAILS AND TIES LAID SINCE JANUARY 1 BY 64 ROADS.			
	Miles.	Tons.	Value.
Steel rails.....	1,770	156,306	\$9,378,360
Iron rails.....	673	48,663	2,180,790
Ties, number.....	8,560,778		8,424,220
Total value.....			\$14,992,440

The same companies estimate that during the remainder of the year they will probably lay 568 miles, or 52,926 tons of steel rails, 159 miles, or 12,612 tons of iron rails, and 1,625,000 ties. Estimating the cost of the steel rails at \$3,175,500, of the iron rails at \$3,675,500, and the ties at \$650,000, we have a total of \$1,303,000 more, which would make the outlay of these roads for rails and ties for the year over \$19,000,000. But if, taking the purchases actually reported by the 64 roads, we may assume that the same proportion to mileage will hold good throughout the country, we have the following:

ESTIMATE OF RAILS AND TIES LAID BY ALL ROADS SINCE JAN. 1.			
	Miles.	Tons.	Value.
Steel rails.....	8,429	744,319	\$44,538,500
Iron rails.....	3,305	231,720	10,427,500
Ties, number.....	40,765,000		16,060,000
Total estimated value.....			\$71,026,000

As the mileage of new roads thus far reported as laid since Jan. 1 is not more than 500 miles, the number of miles of rails above given looks excessive. It probably is too large, as the roads not reporting very likely did not use as much in proportion as those sending returns. At the same time it must be remembered that an immense quantity of rails has been used for renewals and for side tracks and second tracks, so that the road mileage constructed is not by any means the measure of the amount of rail consumption.

On the whole, these figures, although claiming the dignity of statistics only so far as they apply to the companies actually reporting, are, we think, highly interesting as showing a much larger contribution by our railway companies to the prosperity of our manufactures, and hence of every interest, than has been generally believed. If the railways feel sufficient interest in obtaining more exact figures to send in a general response to the inquiries made, we shall be glad to summarize the results again.—*Railway Age.*

Heating Cars by Heat Developed from Friction.

Prof. Webster Wells, late of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has invented a new and rather remarkable apparatus for heating cars. The *Economist* says of it:

The principle of this machine is friction, and the simplicity of construction and adaptability to every place where waste power can be utilized, are as wonderful as are the results accomplished. No one can see it in operation without feeling that this is one of the very few great inventions of the age, and that it places Prof. Wells in the very front rank of inventors. It consists only of an iron cylinder, 2 feet long and 1 foot in diameter, having a fixed plate of hardened iron in one end, and a second plate, attached to a revolving shaft, which presses lightly or closely upon the fixed plate, as circumstances require. The cylinder is filled with water, the shaft revolves, and from the friction of the plates the water, in an incredibly short time, is heated, and by means of steam pipes can be carried to great distances for heating purposes.

The construction of the machine is such that it is easily adapted to every place where there is waste power, as in mills, factories, public buildings and cars. In fact, in every place where any power is used, the machine can be applied, since the power required for its operation is so slight as to be of almost no account. Thus, to carry a machine with 36 square inches of friction plates, the ordinary size, 1/2-horse power only is required, while a machine with 225 square inches of friction surface will require at most but 4-horse power, and will heat a room 60 x 200, or 126,000 cubic feet. In steam cars the machine is easily and cheaply adjusted to the axles, the power being taken directly from the wheels, so that in case of accident, such as started the train of thought which resulted in this invention, all danger from fire is entirely eliminated.

The machine has already been in practical operation for some months, and has demonstrated that with 36 inches of friction surface a room of 10,000 cubic feet can be heated more uniformly and quicker than by the use of coal, wood or steam, and absolutely without expense save the wear of the friction plates and the pitance for extra

coal under the boiler. Indeed, for simplicity of construction, for adaptability to every place where waste power may be utilized, and for the results attained, the machine is a marvel. It has been visited by hundreds of well-known engineers, mechanics, railway and mill superintendents, and all unhesitatingly pronounce it a great and valuable invention. Mr. N. W. Churchill, a well-known business man and an intimate friend of Prof. Wells, is manager of the company organized for the introduction of this heater, and at present has his headquarters at 178 Devonshire street, Boston, where any one who desires to see in practical operation a machine which will produce heat without fuel or fire will find pleasant employment for a half hour of leisure.

Burning Collieries in the Anthracite Regions.

The Keeley Run Colliery, in which fire was discovered early in August of this year, still continues to burn. The attempt to put it out with the aid of carbonic acid gas was abandoned on the 18th ult.

The mine now on fire is divided into three lifts, an upper water level, and two lower levels, the whole depth being 225 yards from the surface. The fire, which broke out in two old breasts in the upper level, it is supposed has been smoldering among the coal dust for several months, and from there extended to the second level, where the vein of coal is from 45 to 50 feet in width, at an angle of 45 degrees. While the attempts were being made to stop the fire with gas, workmen were engaged in putting in batteries and clay stoppings to prevent the spread of the flames and to allow of water being introduced.

It is proposed to raise the water to the height of 35 feet, but this would not extinguish the fire, as the vein is nearly 50 feet thick, but it would save a large quantity of coal. In the judgment of A. B. Cochran and John R. Hoffman, mining engineers, and Samuel Gay, mining inspector, appointed by the court to examine the mine, the only effective plan that can be adopted to extinguish the fire is to flood the mine. This, they say, can only be done by cutting off all connections between the Keeley colliery and the Kohinor shaft, for the reason that the top of the Kohinor shaft is about 160 feet lower than the top of the Keeley run slope, and the water would not rise to a sufficient height to flood the colliery before it would run out of the mouth of the Kohinor or Heckscher shaft. They express the opinion that dams may be built on the first and second lifts sufficiently strong to retain the water to flood the colliery and to extinguish the fire. These dams would be built in the gangways on the western end of the lease, near the Kohinor workings, and would have to be put in by sinking a slope from the surface.

It is thought by others, says a correspondent of the *Public Ledger*, that the mine cannot be flooded so as to extinguish all the fire, for the reason that the battery or stoppings already erected in the new slope which leads to the lower lift and connects with the Kohinor Colliery, will not be strong enough to hold sufficient water to put out all the fire. It is therefore proposed to cut the coal out from each end of the fire and fill in with gravel and then let the center piece burn out. If this work is commenced it will require several months, as they would have to cut from the surface down to the water, a distance of about 100 yards. It is very important that the progress of this fire should be stopped as soon as possible, as, in addition to its connection with the Kohinor on the west, there are other collieries which would in time be affected.

The difficulties encountered in extinguishing fires in coal mines are evidenced by the fire now burning in what was known as the Greenwood Colliery, near Tamaqua. This mine, in almost every extent, is like the Keeley Run Colliery in its situation and in its interior condition. The fire, which is still burning in the Greenwood Colliery, broke out over 25 years ago, after the colliery had been worked for about 20 years. The vein was 27 feet thick.

Mr. Robert Carter, now in charge of the Keeley Run Colliery, at Shenandoah, was the Superintendent of the Greenwood Colliery at the time when the fire occurred. He states that the fire started in an old opening or breach upon the surface. Men who were getting coal from this opening in cold weather left, it is supposed, fire in the place where they were working, and thus igniting the coal on the surface it worked its way down an old shaft, though slowly, to the water level vein, and from thence to the next level, 300 feet below, but work was continued until this point was reached. After the flames had reached the lower level, the men had to leave the mine, and measures were taken to subdue the fire.

The notion that carbonic acid gas would be effective prevailed, and experiments for this purpose were made by a Scotchman named Mingee. A large amount of money was expended in this way during the two years that the experiments continued, but the fire gained headway slowly, and even extended to the lowest level of the workings, a distance of 750 feet below the surface. The proprietors of the mine, finding that the gas forced in failed to have the desired effect, determined to flood the lower level. This was accomplished, but, of course, the upper level, 300 feet below the surface, continued to burn. At the same time a cross section was cut in the upper vein and filled with gravel so as to prevent the spread of the flames to other coal properties. There is no telling when the mine will be worked again, or when the fire will be extinguished. The smoke from it is still plainly visible, particularly at night.

A company has been formed in Paris to work an invention for coating thread with silk. The invention embraces, according to the *Bulletin des Soies*, a chemical process for covering linen or other vegetable threads with a mesh of silk-matter in a way similar to that in which metallic objects are plated with gold or silver. The process is dependent on the fact, which has long been known, that silk is soluble in several strong acid preparations.

Special Notices.

For Sale by
DAVID WILLIAMS,
83 Reade St., New York

that furnacemen would like to obtain higher prices, and some are asking an advance; but consumers are still able to obtain all the pig they want at the prices that have been ruling for the past two months. As stated in our report of last month, prices of Manufactured Iron are unremunerative, and while this continues consumers will be in no mood to pay an advance for the raw article. Commission men generally have very little hope of obtaining an advance for raw iron before January, during which month it is expected that there will be a largely increased demand. Forge Irons may be fairly quoted as follows: Cold Short, \$20 @ \$21.50, 4 mos.; Neutral, \$22 @ \$23; Red-short, cinder mixture, \$23 @ \$24; all ore ditto and Bessemer, \$25 @ \$26. Sales of Mottled Bessemer at \$25, and a small lot of strictly No. 1 at \$28, 4 mos., the latter probably for foundry use. Foundry grades remain unchanged—\$23 for No. 2 to \$25 for No. 1; Eastern Cold Blast, \$38 @ \$40; Hanging Rock ditto, \$40 @ \$45.

Manufactured Iron.—There is a fair degree of activity. The mills generally are employed, some of them working up to their full capacity; but, strange as it may appear, prices continue irregular, and for some of the leading makes, unremunerative. While manufacturers generally quote at from 2.15¢ to 2.25¢ rates for merchant bars, 60 days, 2 per cent. off for cash, it is reported that sales are being made as low as 2¢ rates. Skelp iron may be quoted about the same as bars. It is stated that an order was placed here recently at 2¢, but it is hard to believe. Sheet iron is quotable at 3.5¢ @ 3.85¢ for No. 24, according to classification, time of delivery and size of order. The demand for Plate iron is less active, and prices are weaker, 2.90¢ @ 3¢. Tank iron continues steady, owing to the fact that the mills are nearly all oversold at 3.20¢ @ 3.25¢. Hoop iron 3¢ @ 3.10¢.

Nails.—There is a fair jobbing business, but not much inquiry for round lots. Prices remain about as last quoted—\$2.75, 60 days, 2 per cent. off for cash, with an abatement of 10¢ per keg on carload lots.

Wrought Iron Pipe.—While possibly orders are not coming forward quite so freely, the mills are all busy, not only here, but throughout the country, and likely to be so until the close of the year. Discount on Gas and Steam Pipe unchanged at 60 @ 65¢; on Boiler Tubes, 40¢; Oil Well Casing, 70¢ @ 75¢ per foot, net; ditto Tubing, 2¢, net. If the present cold weather should continue, the work of development in the oil-producing regions will be very much curtailed, and if so the demand for Casing and Tubing will be very much reduced.

Steel.—There is a continued fair degree of activity. The mills generally appear to be busy, but there is considerable complaint in regard to prices. Refined Cast Steel is still quoted at 11¢ @ 12¢; Crucible Machinery Steel, 6½¢ @ 7¢; Bessemer and Open-hearth Steel, 5¢ @ 5½¢; Bessemer and Open-hearth Spring Steel, 4¢ @ 4½¢.

Railway Supplies.—There is an increasing demand for goods of this character, and prices are steady. Spikes, 2½¢ @ 3¢, 30 days; Splice Bars, 2.15¢ @ 2.25¢; Track Bolts, 3¼¢ @ 3½¢ with square and 3¼¢ @ 4¢ with hexagon nuts, according to size of order and time of delivery. In regard to Steel Rails the most and about the only feature to note is that the orders given out by the Northern Pacific Railway last week have filled the mills so full that some of them will be out of the market for several months to come. The mill here, the Edgar Thomson, is said to have orders booked sufficient to absorb its entire production until next July.

Ores.—While furnacemen do not look for Ore to be any cheaper for some time to come, they do expect, in view of the fact that Ore fields are to be opened up early in 1881, to be able to buy for considerably less money next spring and summer. Capitalists have been investigating new Ore fields in different localities during the present year, and arrangements will, no doubt, be made to have Ore from some of these new fields in the market next spring, if not before. It is very evident that our furnacemen must have cheaper Ores, and the sooner the better.

Scrap.—There is a fair movement in some kinds of Scrap, but prices are irregular, and it is difficult to give correct quotations. It is hard to find two Scrap dealers who will give the same quotation for the same kind of Scrap. Some of them think the prices they are willing to pay should be quoted only. Following are about the rates demanded by dealers from consumers: No. 1 Selected Wrought Scrap, \$28 ½ net ton; No. 1 Machinery Metal, \$20 @ \$21, gross; Old Car Wheels, \$32 @ \$34, gross; No. 1 Wrought Turnings, \$18 @ \$20, net; Cast Borings, \$14 @ \$16, gross; Railroad Car Springs, \$40 @ \$42, net; do. Car Axles, \$36 @ \$38.

Window Glass.—While fresh orders have fallen off, some of the factories are still busily engaged in working up old contracts. No change in card or discounts.

Coke.—There is a steady demand, and but for the difficulty in getting rail transportation, the volume of business would be considerably larger. Those operators who own their own cars are doing well enough; but others, who are dependent upon the railway companies for cars, complain that their business has been restricted for some time past for want of transportation. Prices steady, but unchanged, at \$1.50 per ton, delivered free on cars at ovens; \$1.65 @ \$1.75 for small orders.

Coal.—The cold weather has stimulated the Coal business, not only here, but at all points depending upon Pittsburgh for supplies, and then with navigation suspended and source of supply by river shut off, the down-river markets will stiffen and an advance is not improbable. Nearly all the mines in the Monongahela and Youghiogheny Valleys are in operation, and the price for mining is generally 1½¢ per bushel.

Petroleum.—There has been no change in the situation during the past week, with the exception that there is possibly a firmer feeling. The cold weather will do much toward curtailing, if it does not suspend, development in the producing regions, and there are those who believe the raw article is good property at current rates. There has been a good deal done in buyers' option

for next year, and there are, it is said, a good many people waiting to invest their money in it, when satisfied that hard pan has been reached. The October report shows a slight falling off in production, but it is still entirely too large. There is said to be a surplus of from 25,000 to 30,000 bbls. per day.

CHATTANOOGA.

Office of The Iron Age, Market and 8th Sts., CHATTANOOGA, NOV. 22, 1880.

The weather has been winter-like, and closes cold and bright. The volume of business and prices are fairly full and satisfactory.

Pig Iron.—There is nothing new in the crude metal market. The demand for Foundry may be eased off some in a few days, as Oakdale will be offering several thousand tons, a large per cent. of which is No. 1, in a few days. We quote: No. 1 Foundry, \$25 @ \$27; No. 2 Foundry, \$23 @ \$25; Gray Forge, \$20 @ \$22; White and Mottled, \$18 @ \$20; Car Wheel Metal, \$38 @ \$40.

Miscellaneous Articles.—Old Rails continue in full supply. We quote them at \$22 @ \$26; Wrought Scrap, \$20 @ \$24; Cast, \$15 @ \$17; Old Wheels, \$28 @ \$30.

Ores.—We quote: 50¢ Brown Hematite, per ton, \$2 @ \$2.75; Red Fossil, \$2 @ \$2.25.

Nails.—The Nail market continues unsatisfactory. Pittsburgh, though quoting 10¢ @ 15¢ higher, is actually making sales at \$2.50 @ \$2.55, 60 days. We continue our quotation at \$3.10 rates, usual discount on 200-keg lots, and for cash.

Manufactured Iron.—We hear on fairly reliable authority that large bills of Bar are being offered in Cincinnati at \$2.10 rates. Bar in this district continues weak. Mills are fairly full of orders, but there is little profit in the business for makers. We quote: Bar, weak at \$2.40 rates; Railroad Spikes, \$3; Track Bolts, \$4; Trestle Bolts, \$4.50; Fish Plate, \$2.50.

Coal.—Run of mine to manufacturers \$1.65 @ \$1.75, at mills; Lump, 14¢ @ 16¢, at yard.

Coke.—Furnace Coke, \$3 per ton at furnace; Foundry, 10¢ @ 12¢ per bushel.

Steel and Iron Rails.—We quote: Steel Bars at \$62.50 per American makes, \$60 for foreign. Iron, \$48 @ \$50; Small T is firm at \$55.

Lead.—We quote: Pig Lead, 4½¢ @ 5¢. Steel—Pig Slabs, 3 in. and under, \$4.70; Black Diamond, ordinary sizes, 13¢.

BOSTON.

NOVEMBER 20.—The market for raw Irons is moderately active and steady, and we continue to quote American Pig Iron at \$25 @ \$26 for No. 1 X; \$20.50 @ \$22.50 for No. 2 X, and \$19 @ \$21 for Gray Forge. These prices are f. o. b. at the port of shipment. Small spot lots will command \$2 per ton higher. We quote Foreign Iron at \$22 for Eglinton; \$23 @ \$24 for Glengarnock; and \$25 for Coltness and Langloan; and \$19 @ \$20 for Middlesborough. Old Rails are firm at \$26 @ \$28 for Foreign and \$30 for American. Manufactured Iron is in only moderate demand from store. Bar is selling at \$2.25 @ \$2.30 and common Bolt Iron at \$2.15. Norway and Swedish are unchanged at \$4.15 for Bars and \$5.15 for shapes. Nails are dull and weak, and we quote \$2.85 for 10d to 60d. Plates are in fair demand at 3¢ for Tank, 3½¢ for C. No. 1, 3¾¢ for C. H. No. 1 Shell, and 4¼¢ for 5¢ for C. H. No. 1 Flange. Copper is quiet and unchanged at 18½¢ @ 19¢ for Lake and 18¼¢ @ 18½¢ for Baltimore. A moderate jobbing trade prevails at 19¢ @ 19½¢ for Lake and 18½¢ @ 19¢ for other brands. There has been no change in the combination prices of Manufactured Copper. We quote: New Sheathing Copper, 26¢; Braziers', 25¢; and Bolts, 28¢; Bottoms, 31¢; American Yellow Sheathing Metal, 17¢ @ 18¢; Yellow Metal Bolts, 20¢; and English Yellow Metal Sheathing, 14¢, in bond. Lead is quiet and unchanged, and round lots are obtainable at \$4.90 ½ cwt., and smaller parcels at 5¢ @ 5½¢. The prices of manufactures are unchanged, as follows: Bar, 6½¢; Pipe, 6½¢; Sheet, 7¢; Tin-lined Pipe, 15¢; Tin Pipe, 40¢; all less 10¢ to the trade. No. 1 Solder, 11½¢. Spelter is quiet and steady, and we quote 5½¢ for Western, and 4¼¢ @ 4½¢ for Remelted. Retail lots command ½¢ above these figures. Sheet Zinc is quiet at 7½¢ @ 7¾¢. Tin is very firm at about 21¢ for Straits, and offers of 20½¢ for round lots have been refused. Tin Plates are in fair demand and prices firm. We quote Charcoal Bright at \$6.25 @ \$6.50, and Ternes at \$5.37½ @ \$5.50. Coke Tin at \$5 @ \$5.12½, and Ternes at \$4.87½ @ \$5.25.—Commercial Bulletin.

CINCINNATI.

NOVEMBER 22.—Pig Iron.—During the past week the volume of trade was only fair, consumers holding off except for immediate use. It is conceded in every quarter that the present daily production of Pig Iron is in excess of the consumption. The increased demand that is so reasonably predicted, if it comes at all, will be fully met by an increased production from the new and old furnaces that have lately been put in blast, and from those that are very soon to go in. The sales during the past week justify the following quotations:

No. 1 Hanging Rock Charcoal Foundry Extra..... \$27.00 @
No. 1 Hanging Rock Charcoal Foundry Dry Good..... 26.50 @
No. 2 Hanging Rock Charcoal Foundry..... 25.50 @ 26.00
No. 1 Hanging Rock Coke Foundry..... 24.50 @ 25.50
No. 2 Hanging Rock Coke Foundry..... 23.50 @ 24.50
No. 1 Hanging Rock Stonecoal Foundry..... 23.00 @ 24.00
No. 2 Hanging Rock Stonecoal Foundry..... 21.50 @ 22.50
No. 1 Hanging Rock Silver Grey Softener..... 21.00 @ 22.50
No. 1 Hanging Rock Silver Grey Softener..... 20.50 @ 21.00
No. 2 Hanging Rock Silver Grey Softener..... 19.50 @ 20.50
Forge Irons are held at from \$17 for low grades. Of Stonecoal make, Coke, \$21 @ \$22.50; Charcoal, \$21 @ \$24.

Cincinnati being the largest distributing point in the United States for Cold-blast Charcoal Car-wheel Irons, it is significant here of the actual condition of the market that the makers and consumers of these

irons meet each others views at figures that are from \$2 to \$5 per ton below public quotations. Bar Iron.—Our rolling mills are all active, and are encouraged by an increase of orders in the past week, mostly for the finer qualities and from \$2.15 to \$2.25 card rate.

LOUISVILLE.

Messrs. GEO. H. HULL & Co., Commission Merchants, report to us as follows, under date of November 19: The market is quiet and steady. Nearly all the furnaces South which produce Mill and Foundry Irons are sold up to their capacity for some weeks ahead, and although some of them would book moderate orders for future delivery, others are declining to sell until they catch up with their orders. Most of the manufacturers in this vicinity are supplied until after January 1st, with what they have on hand and coming in. The market, therefore, is very quiet with few sales, but is firm at our quotations. No sales of Car-wheel Irons have been booked for some time, but some of the manufacturers will have to come into the market about the first of the year. We quote for cash as follows:

FOUNDRY IRONS.
No. 1 Hanging Rock, Charcoal..... \$27.00 @ 28.00
No. 2..... 26.00 @ 27.00
No. 1 Southern, Charcoal..... 25.00 @ 26.00
No. 2..... 24.00 @ 25.00
No. 1 Hanging Rock, Stonecoal and Coke..... 24.00 @ 25.00
No. 2..... 23.00 @ 24.00
No. 1 Southern, Stonecoal and Coke..... 23.00 @ 24.00
No. 2..... 22.00 @ 23.00
"American Scotch"..... 21.00 @ 22.00
Silver Gray..... 21.00 @ 22.00
Scotch..... 20.00 @ 21.00

MILL IRONS.
No. 1 Charcoal, Cold-short and Neutral..... \$21.00 @ 24.00
No. 2..... 20.00 @ 21.00
No. 1 Stonecoal and Coke, Cold-short and Neutral..... 21.00 @ 21.50
No. 2..... 20.00 @ 20.50
No. 1 Southern, Stonecoal and Coke..... 20.00 @ 21.00
No. 2..... 19.00 @ 20.00
"American Scotch"..... 18.00 @ 19.00
Silver Gray..... 18.00 @ 19.00
Scotch..... 17.00 @ 18.00

CAR WHEEL AND MALLEABLE IRONS.
Hanging Rock, Cold-blast..... 35.00 @ 40.00
Alabama and Georgia, Cold-blast..... 35.00 @ 40.00
Kentucky, Cold-blast..... 35.00 @ 40.00
W. B. BELKNAP & Co., Iron and Steel Merchants, Nos. 113 and 115 Main street, report to us as follows under date of November 20: Business during the past week has been exceptionally active for this season of the year. Demand is most noticeable on fire-bed and light Sheet, on which there has as yet been no concession of price to speak of. A sudden cold snap has brought about a call for winter goods, and the threatened suspension of navigation above, on account of low water and freezing, is accelerating buying somewhat of Pittsburgh goods. A general belief in the future prevails, and a heavy business is predicted for January.

NEW ORLEANS.

Messrs. MINTIGERODE & Co., dealers in Railway Supplies, 61 St. Charles street, write as follows under date of November 19: Our market continues very firm on all grades of iron, and business is very brisk. We do not note any special advance in prices of new material, except that English Iron Rails are from \$1.50 to \$2 higher than 10 days ago. The inquiry for raw material is very active, and prices generally have shown advances over last week. The outlook for a large business is encouraging.

ST. LOUIS.

Messrs. CARD & HOFFER, Pig Iron and Iron Ore Merchants, 417 Pine street, write us as follows, under date of November 20: A good business has been done during the last few days. Week closes with prices stronger than for some time past.

MISSOURI..... \$26.00 @ 27.00
SOUTHERN..... 25.00 @ 26.00
HANGING ROCK..... 24.00 @ 25.00

COKE AND COAL.
MISSOURI..... 25.00 @ 26.00
SOUTHERN..... 24.00 @ 25.00
OHIO..... 23.00 @ 24.00

MILL IRONS.
Cold-short..... 22.50 @ 23.50
Red-short..... 21.00 @ 22.00

CAR WHEEL AND MALLEABLE IRONS.
MISSOURI..... 30.00 @ 35.00
SOUTHERN..... 28.00 @ 30.00
OHIO..... 26.00 @ 28.00

ORE.
Ore for fire..... 10.00 @ 12.00
For furnace..... 6.50 @ 7.50
Brown Hematite..... no market.

BALTIMORE.

W. N. WYETH, Iron and Steel Merchant, 46 and 48 South Charles street, reports us the following, under date of November 22: Trade for the past week has ruled only moderately fair, and will doubtless continue so until about the first of the coming year:

Ref. Bar Iron, 1 to 6 by ½ to 1..... \$23 ½ @ 24 ½
" " 1 to 4 by ½ to 1..... 22 ½ @ 23 ½
" " ½ to 2, Round..... 21 ½ @ 22 ½
" " ½ to 2, Square..... 20 ½ @ 21 ½
Hoop Iron, 1½ wide and upward..... 3 ½ @ 4 ½
Band Iron, from 1½ to 4 in. wide..... 3 ½ @ 4 ½
Horse-shoe Iron..... 3 ½ @ 4 ½
Norway Nail Rods..... 6 ½ @ 7 ½
Black Diamond Cast Steel..... 13 ½ @ 14 ½
Machinery Steel..... 9 @ 9 ½
Cast Spring Steel..... 8 @ 8 ½
Common Horse Nails..... 10 @ 14 ½
Perkins' Horse shoes, ½ keg of 100 lbs..... 84.37 ½
Mule shoes..... 5.37 ½
Putnam Horse Nails..... 21 23 25 26 27 28
Globe Horse Nails..... 20 21 22 23 24
Railroad Spikes..... 3 @ 3 ½
Less list discount to the trade.

RICHMOND.

Mr. ASA SNYDER, Iron Merchant and Furnace Agent, writes as follows under date of November 22: Market firm at quotations, but sales less active.

Scotch Pig Iron..... \$25.00 @ 26.00
American Scotch Pig Iron..... 24.00 @ 25.00
No. 1..... 23.00 @ 24.00
No. 2..... 22.00 @ 23.00
No. 3..... 21.00 @ 22.00
Mottled and White..... 19.00 @ 20.00
Virginia Charcoal Wheel Iron..... 26.00 @ 27.00
Old Rails..... 25.00 @ 26.00
Wrought Scrap, No. 1..... 23.00 @ 24.00
Cast, Machinery Scrap..... 21.00 @ 22.00
Richmond Refined Bar Iron..... 2.6 @ 2.7
Horse Shoes, Treadle..... 4.00 @ 4.50
Mule..... 3.00 @ 3.50
Old Dominion Nails..... 3 @ 3.25
For lots of 200 kegs, 10¢ per keg less.

Our English Letter.

Review of the British Iron, Steel, Metal and Hardware Trades.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

LONDON, ENG., November 8, 1880.

THE TRADE OUTLOOK

is fairly bright, the slight change for the better noticed a week ago having been pretty well maintained since the date of my last letter. The improvement does not amount to much, it is true, but the mere impression that matters are not growing worse is sufficient to give us cause for thankfulness, if not for positive jubilation. At the present time and under existing conditions we are in the mood to be thankful for small mercies. The present relief is a sample of the smallness of such "mercies." I don't think it would be possible for any writer or speaker to definitely specify the reasons which have led to the improved tone of the markets here. It is sufficient to observe that such a tone really exists, without manifesting a disposition to analyze its component parts too closely. Perhaps the general commercial situation has helped along the iron trade, and has led those most deeply interested therein to form the impression that they are not less likely to feel the effects of any general revival than their fellows. The plentitude of money, to which I alluded some weeks ago, is a circumstance which is beginning to attract increased and more thoughtful attention here. Many millions—perhaps as much as £50,000,000—lie in the banks on deposit at 1 and 2 per cent., with few new openings for investment which yield more than 4 per cent., and speculation on foreign loans and the like class of "wild-cat" operations is absolutely dead for the time being. That being the case it is, perhaps, not surprising that consols rose during last week to 1/16 @ 1/8 above par, a level which had not been reached since the year 1853. These consols are government stock, bearing interest at the rate of 3 per cent. only; hence it is plain that there must be a great dearth of paying investments to send them up so unprecedentedly high. This vast accumulation of capital mostly lies at call, and would of a certainty be largely forthcoming in support of all sorts of schemes should the public once form the impression that a general revival of business had set in. Such a reserve fund, as it were, has its good points and advantages, but it is not without its drawbacks. It is always liable to be thrown into the market rashly, and pitchforked into reckless adventures which are often started and run for a time in direct competition with the old established and prudent traders. That was the case in 1871-3, when iron works and collieries were set going by the company promoters to such an extent that those industries have been suffering ever since from the overproduction and excessive competition thereby engendered. At present there are few temptations in a similar direction, but there is no axiom so true as that which alleges that fools never learn wisdom by experience, so that, given the same premises, we might look forward to precisely the same conclusions as on previous occasions. A small proportion of this superfluous capital is probably finding its way into the iron market in the shape of purchases of Scotch warrants, but the amount cannot be large, or we should have witnessed a more marked rebound in the quotations for that class of paper. Warrants, I may say, are now regularly quoted in the newspaper reports of the London Stock Exchange, and I believe the brokers and jobbers look upon them as affording an excellent medium for rapid movements—of the shuttlecock order. If your proposed Pittsburgh stores should be established, you may expect something of the same kind on your side of the Atlantic. Such stores are highly useful, but the paper they issue is occasionally made the source of mischief. As I stated at the outset, there has been a rather better feeling in the trade during the week, almost all classes of iron, whether crude or manufactured, being held at about last week's prices, but with more cheerfulness all round. The Scotch makers are doing a heavy business on account of their own malleable and other iron works, which fact operates as a counterpoise against the comparative smallness of the pig iron shipments, which compare badly with the figures for the corresponding period of last year. The production is still increasing, as are the stocks, but the smelters appear to have every confidence in the future of the industry, and continue to pile up the iron irrespective of the current demand. In the Cleveland district the make is exceedingly large, but the shipments are in proportion, and the unsold stock does not increase very seriously. These shipments, however, may be considered at an end for the season so far as the Baltic and Northern seas are concerned, our reports thence notifying much ice and the practical closing of the navigation. This stops all shipments to Russia and parts of Germany, &c., direct, but does not necessarily cut off those countries entirely, seeing that a good deal of iron for Germany will be sent via Rotterdam, and thence up the Rhine into Westphalia, Rhineland, &c. On the West Coast and throughout the remainder of the country pig is quiet, and the best sorts are being ousted in a large measure by commoner brands, which "come in" much more cheaply for a great variety of purposes. In merchant irons everything rules steady, most of the newer orders being in respect of the second rate and common kinds. In hoops, sheets, wire and wire rods there is a steady business doing, a fair proportion of the orders being from manufacturers on your side. I am credibly informed that, not long ago, a considerable tonnage of iron wire rods and billets were bought in this country on behalf of your wire and screw manufacturers at prices which were virtually lower than your own. A quantity of Westphalian wire rods was bought about the same time. I am told that the parties to both transactions have been so well satisfied that they have just repeated the orders. As a matter of fact, the Germans are sending us also a good deal of iron of the kind just indicated, and are enabled to undersell our

own makers "on their own doorsteps," chiefly owing to the heavy railway freights which so seriously handicap all inland manufacturers who have to compete against foreign producers who have the advantage of cheap water carriage down to the sea, and thence low freights into London, Hull or other ports. Some day or other, perhaps at no distant date, the whole question of railroad rates for merchandise will need overhauling with a view to giving the State either supreme administrative control over, or the actual possession of, the whole of the lines in the country. The subject is not well understood, but there is much "smothered" indignation, which will some time burst forth in flames of agitation. While on the railroad theme I may perhaps be permitted to say that certain paragraphs and reports which have appeared within the past few days in the English papers, as to purchases of 50,000 tons of rails by Mr. Vanderbilt, are obviously only hashed up from one of my letters of about a month ago. I write from memory, but I believe I only stated that the junior commodore had bought 15,000 tons, and added that he was understood to have purchased 50,000 or 60,000 tons while in Europe recently. Upon this the new edifice has been erected by some enterprising liner, whether on this or your side I do not pretend to know. The *rechauffe* is ingenious to say the least. I may, however, add for your information that very considerable quantities of steel rails have recently been ordered in Europe by your railroad magnates and corporations, Mr. Vanderbilt among them. Besides the Cammell order, spoken of in my previous letters, contracts have been taken by the Krupp Works, of Essen, and by the Actien Gesellschaft Phoenix, of Laar-bei-Ruhrort, to the tune of 30,000 to 40,000 tons. The report that the Rheinisch Steel Works, of Ruhrort, participate is not correct, but I am not able to speak positively as to the Union Iron and Steel Works, of Dortmund. Prices range from £5. 10/ to £6. 5/ at works, and deliveries are spread over much of 1880-1.

SCOTCH PIG IRON

has remained steadily quiet since the date of my last letter, with a good home business, but only a moderate number of shipping transactions. There are now 119 Scotch furnaces blowing, as against 95 this date last year. In Connal's stores there are 477,067 tons compared with 364,591 a year ago. To date the shipments show an increase of 90,140 tons over those for 1879, the last few weeks' decreases having largely pulled down the previous highly favorable comparison. Last week's addition to stocks was 627 tons. Pig iron for ballast is quoted at 45¢ per ton alongside ship in Forth or Clyde. The importations of Middlesboro' pig into Grangemouth again fell last week, the total comparative decrease to date being set down at 5407 tons on a total of 214,638 tons. Writing from Glasgow November 5, James Watson & Co., said: The iron market has been quiet this week without much change in price and only a moderate business transacted. On Monday the price dropped from 51/4 @ 50/10½, rallying however at the close to 51/1 per ton. On Tuesday the improvement continued from 51/ @ 51/3½ cash, closing quieter at 51/1½ per ton. On Wednesday the market opened firm at 51/3 gradually receding to 50/10 cash. Yesterday the opening was flat, the price dropping to 50/8 cash, and in the afternoon business was done from 50/7½ @ 50/9½ per ton. To-day the tone was firmer, with a good business done from 50/10½ @ 51/3 cash 8 days, closing sellers 51/2, buyers 51/1½ per ton. The shipments last week were 7556 tons, as compared with 17,000 tons for the corresponding week of 1879." We quote:

	No. 1.	No. 2.
G. M. B., at Glasgow.....	51/	50/
Gartsherrrie, at Glasgow.....	51/	50/
Coltness, ".....	51/	50/
Summerlee, ".....	51/	50/
Langloan, ".....	51/	50/
Carbroe, ".....	51/	50/
Caldar, at Port Dundas.....	51/	50/
Glengarnock, at Ardrossan.....	51/	50/
Eglinton, ".....	51/	50/
Dalmellington, ".....	51/	50/
Shotts, at Leith.....	51/	50/

The figures of John E. Swan & Bros., Limited, closely approximate with these. Last week's exports from the Clyde included £38,000 worth of iron, machinery and metals.

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS, issued to-day, are not by any means unfavorable as a whole, although there are several items in which the comparison with last year is not quite so good as some persons appear to have expected. This remark holds good as regards certain classes of iron, but it must be remembered that a year ago we were sending iron and steel to your ports with almost unprecedented recklessness, whereas the transactions of last month were principally *bona fide*. This fact borne in mind, the statistics show to fair advantage, and may be said to again prove that we are still doing a highly respectable turnover in all our leading manufactures. The imports during the month were of the aggregate value of £27,436,060, as against £32,316,505 in October, 1879, and £29,582,303 in October, 1878. This decrease is decidedly in our favor, and has arisen from the lessened purchases of corn and other breadstuffs. During the 10 months ending November 30, however, we have imported to the value of £337,343,822, as against £292,462,797 last year to the same date. The export returns are still ahead. Last month the total value of British and Irish manufactures and produce exported was £18,685,060, against £17,699,432 last year. For the 10 months the figures are—this year, £185,731,037; last, £157,875,597.

The principal articles in which your readers are interested are:

Articles.	Month of October.	1879.	1880.
Firearms (small) No.....	1879.	1880.	
Gunpowder, lbs.....	1,333,468	1,597,180	
All other kinds of ammunition, &c., &c., to lbs.....	57,196	79,566	
Brass manufactures, cwt.....	9,945	7,589	
Railway passenger carriages, No.....	9	14	
Railway goods, wagons, No.....	41	28	
Coal, coke, fuel, &c., to tons.....	1,471,171	1,659,866	
Copper, unwrought, cwt.....	37,516	37,606	
" wrought, cwt.....	28,804	30,934	
Mixed or yellow metal sheathing, cwt.....	29,361	29,573	
Glass—Plate, &c., sq. ft.....	174,330	160,583	
" flat, cwt.....	7,248	11,234	
" do. bottles & green, &c., cwt.....	56,832	54,830	
Glass—Other manufactures, cwt.....	11,601	12,207	
Hardware and cutlery, &c.....	265,810	332,326	

Iron-Pig, tons	184,486	118,213
Bar, angle, rod, bolt, tons	22,314	22,160
Railroad, all sorts, tons	44,977	53,110
Wire (except telegraph), tons	4,540	3,866
Hoops, sheets, boiler, &c., plates, tons	17,049	30,181
Plates, tons	17,818	30,044
Cast or wrought, &c., tons	21,283	30,053
Old, for remanufacture, tons	36,810	6,570
Steel, unwrought, tons	2,900	4,808
Manufactures of iron and steel combined, tons	1,090	1,184
Lead, all, tons	3,332	3,324
Machinery & millwork—Steam engines, &c.	150,000	210,988
Other sorts, &c.	338,593	620,651
Plated, &c., wares, &c.	21,207	25,307
Telegraphic wires and apps, &c.	412,201	64,030
Tin, unwrought, cwt.	18,096	3,954
Zinc or spelter, all, cwt.	7,743	12,135
Special returns—Iron rails, tons	5,220	6,703
Steel rails, tons	40,593	40,444

EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES

during last month are shown in the subjoined table, and compared with the same month of last year as well as with September this year:

Article	Month of October, 1880.	Month of October, 1879.	Month of September, 1880.
Alkali, cwt.	315,928	415,766	300,117
Hardware and cutlery, &c.	83,993	47,095	46,663
Bar, angle, rod, bolt, &c., tons	22,314	22,160	22,160
Railroad, all sorts, tons	44,977	53,110	53,110
Wire (except telegraph), tons	4,540	3,866	3,866
Hoops, sheets, plates, &c., tons	17,049	30,181	30,181
Plates, tons	17,818	30,044	30,044
Cast or wrought, &c., tons	21,283	30,053	30,053
Old, for remanufacture, tons	36,810	6,570	6,570
Steel, unwrought, tons	2,900	4,808	4,808
Manufactures of iron and steel combined, tons	1,090	1,184	1,184
Lead, all, tons	3,332	3,324	3,324
Machinery & millwork—Steam engines, &c.	150,000	210,988	210,988
Other sorts, &c.	338,593	620,651	620,651
Plated, &c., wares, &c.	21,207	25,307	25,307
Telegraphic wires and apps, &c.	412,201	64,030	64,030
Tin, unwrought, cwt.	18,096	3,954	3,954
Zinc or spelter, all, cwt.	7,743	12,135	12,135
Special returns—Iron rails, tons	5,220	6,703	6,703
Steel rails, tons	40,593	40,444	40,444

These figures amply corroborate the trade reports which have from time to time appeared in my letters. They show that in pig iron and old iron we have done much less with you, while in steel rails there has been a marked increase, which has more than compensated for the falling off in iron rails. Tin plates, you will notice, have been almost stationary.

CLEVELAND PIG

is in heavy request, especially for use in the district itself, where there is at the present time greater activity in almost every leading department than has ever before been known. This is particularly true of the plate and angle mills, which are doing a very large turnover. From Easton, blooms and rails are being sent to the United States, whither a few lots of pig are also going from Bell Brothers' Clarence Works. The monthly returns of the Cleveland Ironmasters' Association for October show the following condensed particulars: Make of Cleveland Pig Iron.—Month ending October 31, 1880, 175,881 tons; increase upon September, 1880, 9,001 tons. Make of other kinds of iron.—Month ending October 31, 1880, 46,216 tons; decrease upon September, 1880, 10,103 tons. Total make, October, 1880, 222,097 tons; increase upon September, 1880, 8,773 tons. Shipments (Foreign) of pig iron from Port of Middlesbrough.—Month ending October 31, 1880, 44,855 tons; corresponding month last year, 45,631 tons; decrease upon October, 1879, 377 tons. Shipments (coastwise) of pig iron from Port of Middlesbrough.—Month ending October 31, 1880, 41,195 tons; corresponding month last year, 45,932 tons; decrease upon October, 1879, 4,737 tons. Makers' stocks of Cleveland iron, October 31, 1880.—Port of Middlesbrough, 86,877 tons; total of district, 110,121 tons; increase upon September, 1880, 253 tons.—Stock in warrant stores.—Public stores, September, 30, 1880, 117,428 tons; October 31, 1880, 128,913 tons; makers' stores, September 30, 1880, 47,414 tons; October 31, 1880, 50,894 tons. Net increase in stocks and stores, 15,218 tons.

Current prices are (net cash f. o. b. Tees):
No. 1 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 2 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 3 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 4 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 5 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 6 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 7 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 8 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 9 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 10 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 11 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 12 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 13 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 14 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 15 Foundry..... 44/6
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No. 92 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 93 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 94 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 95 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 96 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 97 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 98 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 99 Foundry..... 44/6
No. 100 Foundry..... 44/6

WEST COAST HEMATITES

are fairly balanced, but there are suspicions that in some quarters the process of shading is being liberally carried out. The undernoted figures are liable to lose 2/6 at 5/ per ton when they are put in the scale with respectably proportioned orders:

Cleator	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.
Cleator	72/6	71/1	70/3
Lonsdale	66/6	65/6	64/6
Workington	66/6	65/6	64/6
Lowther	66/6	65/6	64/6
Moss Bay	66/6	65/6	64/6
Harrington	66/6	65/6	64/6
Selby	66/6	65/6	64/6
Maryport	66/6	65/6	64/6
Askham	66/6	65/6	64/6

I notice that a firm of Sheffield steel manufacturers are advertising for 5000 tons of Bessemer hematite pigs—a circumstance which would seem to show that the firm have every confidence in the "good old ways" which held unquestioned sway prior to the advent of the Thomas-Gilchrist dephosphorization project and its patronage of common phosphoriferous pig iron.

FROM SHEFFIELD

the news ought to be excessively good, in a negative sense, showing how extremely brief it is. Sheffield is, therefore, to be congratulated for having next to no contemporary industrial history. Perhaps the historians are lazy, or lack the materials of which all authentic history is composed. I have often alluded to the splendid rail mill of John Brown & Company, and have expressed my regret that so fine a mill should so long lie idle. I am, therefore, the more gratified to learn that the building in question is to be utilized for rolling plates, the demand for which is so strong at the present time as to warrant the change. The steel trade is fairly engaged—on American orders for the most part. Almost the whole of the cutlery manufacturers are well employed—indeed, the evidences of activity grow more numerous and convincing every succeeding week, and the remainder of the year is likely to be prosperous.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

(Moniteur des Interets Materiels.)

PARIS, Nov. 7, 1880.—Metals.—While business in general has been rather looking up and the demand for metals with it, the situation of iron has, on the contrary, grown worse. Copper has been doing well, improving 2.50 francs. We quote: Chili Bars, 162.50 @ 165; Ingots and Slabs, 167.50; Best Selected, 171; and pure Corocoro Ore, 165 francs the 100 kilos. Tin.—An advance of 7.50 francs has taken place since our last. We are, therefore, now able to quote Banca and English 245, and other sorts 240. Lead has also advanced 1 franc. We quote the same, 38.50 @ 39.50. Spelter, on the other hand, has given way 20c. @ 1 franc, and we cannot quote the same any higher than 1.50 @ 44 francs. Iron.—In this branch there have been offered Merchant Iron, delivered here, at 16 francs per 100 kilos, from the North, which would be equal to 15 francs at the works. This is a low price. In the Haut Marne Coke Tin is sustained at 18 francs and Mixed at 20 francs, with a difference between classes of 5 @ 10 francs. The works were still kept tolerably busy, but it was apprehended that high water would do some mischief. The iron situation in France in general is not encouraging. On the contrary, it is well calculated to spread uneasiness among makers, in view of the apparently irresistible decline we are witnessing. Coal.—Activity in this branch is well maintained. Orders are becoming more considerable daily, but prices remain the same. Shipments at St. Etienne have again been larger than the previous week.

BELGIUM.

(Revue Universelle.)

BRUSSELS, Nov. 7, 1880.—Iron.—Nothing has happened to essentially modify the iron situation in Belgium. Producers feel no particular anxiety to sell at cost, while consumers say that their profits are so insignificant that they cannot go on paying current rates for the raw material. Rolling mills and some other works, however, still remain tolerably busy. This, we are sorry to say, is not the case with blast furnaces. We are, therefore, led to presume that some of them will prefer to cease operations. Very soon some may be blown out. They get for Affinage Pig, 5.50 francs per 100 kilos, and for Moulage, 5.20 @ 5.70. The machine shops do not complain, nor do the steel works. Bolt and hardware manufacturers have got a steady amount of work on hand, but at very moderate prices. They insist that they still have to pay their iron too high. Prices in general have been sustained since our last report but the feeling lacks all strength in the face of the state of affairs in our immediate neighborhood; another week will probably decide. Coal has continued to do very well within the range of 12.25 francs to 19 francs at extremes, and Lump Coal at 22.50. Coal for households has been in active request during the week, with an upward tendency. Stocks at the mines have diminished at such a rapid rate that in some quarters they have been exhausted. Coal for engines is in less request. The general outlook is a strong one.

GERMANY.

(Borsenkalender.)

HAMBURG, Nov. 6, 1880.—Iron.—Our Dortmund correspondent writes: "No improvement is as yet perceptible in the iron trade; on the contrary, the dull tendency is getting to be intensified. This is chiefly due to the circumstance that orders for Merchant Iron are light and that the demand for Sheet Iron is also less active, in consequence of which concessions have to be made. In Steel Rails there is, however, a better feeling for several large makers. Orders remain orders of note from America, and the adjudications for German railroads now pending will embrace 24,000 Steel Rails and 750 tons of iron sleepers. The demand for Coal is meanwhile enormous, so much so that a general rise in prices seems inevitable in all the present month. Some mines have advanced prices 2 @ 3 marks per 100 cwt. and upward. Coal transportation per rail is unusually active, particularly in the Ruhr. Rhine has become so turbulent that the stoutest tugboats dare not confront the high waves. News from the Silesian iron districts is unfavorable so far as Merchant Iron is concerned, now selling at 100 marks the 100 kilos. The price of pig iron is still in some demand; besides it can be stored more easily than steel, and it is on it; hence it is better sustained in value. Nothing will ease the general iron situation in Silesia but export or curtailment of production, and nobody has resorted to the latter yet. There is no particular change reported from the Moselle and Sarre region, so far as iron is concerned; the sale of coal there is steadily on the increase at 7 @ 9 marks per ton for Sarre Coal. In the lower Rhenish and Westphalian districts iron remains dull, while Coal is in good request at partially higher rates. Metals.—Our market has been moderately active at partially higher rates, except Spelter, which remains steady. We quote: Drontheim Copper, 72 @ 71 marks per 50 kilos; Banca Tin, 93 @ 94; German Pig Lead, 16.50; and Silesian Spelter, 18.25 @ 18.50 marks the 50 kilos.

HOLLAND.

(Koch & Vlierboom.)

ROTTERDAM, November 7, 1880.—Tin.—Business has been tolerably active, but mostly on speculation, consumers not being very anxious to subscribe to ruling rates. We quote at the close: Banca, 54 guilders per 50 kilos, and Billiton, 55.50. At Amsterdam the latter is bringing 53.75 guilders.

AUSTRIA.

(Austrian Trade Journal.)

VIENNA, Nov. 7, 1880.—Iron.—No improvement has occurred during the week, although there has been greater steadiness than during the preceding fortnight, due to the good demand from machine shops and other iron workers. These classes of consumers are kept tolerably busy, but their demand does not suffice to absorb the amounts turned out all along by makers. There seems to be greater readiness to take hold, however, at current reduced figures. During the coming month of December makers will have to make up their minds whether they will renew their combination or not, for the agreement will then expire and their resolution will to a considerable extent shape the course of the market and prices thereafter. In Hungary the unsettled condition of the iron market is continuing, the only thing becoming evident is that the lower prices have begun to stimulate a greater demand from consumers. Iron has been inactive at Vienna, Merchant Iron particularly dull. We quote Fig. 50 @ 60 florins per ton; Merchant Iron, 105 @ 120; Sheet, 100 @ 120; and Pillars, 125 @ 125 florins. Metals have undergone no further change since our last report.

CHILE.

(Ferrocaril.)

VALPARAISO, Sep. 24, 1880.—Copper.—A good business might have been done if holders of Copper had been willing to take in payment sterling bills, at the ruling exchange, but this they declined. Aside therefrom the European cable news was not particularly encouraging, and our market lacked animation in consequence. The only 2800 quintals at \$23.46 per quintal on board at Totorillo, with an exchange of 25/4d. per dollar, and 180 quintals at \$23 on shore here; of Regular a lot was taken at \$20.50, with 25/4d. as a basis by our smelters. Nothing was done in Ore. The nominal quotations at the close were for Copper, \$20.75 @ \$21.15; Regular, \$20.50, and Ore, \$4.00 on board. Nitrate.—In consequence of unfavorable advices from Europe, only a few small cargoes sold at \$4.20 @ \$4.45. The Senate reduced the export duty to \$1.50 per quintal, yet to be sanctioned by the chamber of deputies. Sales 72,000 quintals, 55 @ 95 at \$4.50 @ \$4.45; exchange, 25/4d. per dollar. Banks have fixed the same to-day at 25/4d. for 60 days, and \$26/4d. for 90 days sight drafts on London, per dollar. P. S.—At the close, 200 quintals Copper in Bars still sell at \$21.15 on board at Guayacan. Available tonnage, 20,749 tons British, and 19,165 tons other flags.

EAST INDIES.

(Schmidt, Kustermann & Co.)

PEKING, September 27, 1880.—Tin.—Prices during the fortnight under review have kept above London parity, chiefly in consequence of the American demand. The market opened at \$26.25 per picul, then receded to \$25.50, and finally recovered to \$25.50, at which rate some few sales were effected, total sales amounting to 272 piculs for America, and 220 piculs for the East. Stock in

Bazar reduced to 1000 piculs all told. Exchange has been fully sustained, closing with a decidedly firm tendency, at 3/9 1/2, 4 months' sight Bank drafts on London.

Some Scraps of Early Stove History.

The Troy *Whig* prints the following: The introduction of stoves is so new that it has scarcely any literature besides its advertisements. Nowhere in the language is there a handbook showing plainly and clearly what the nature of a stove is and what facts in heating have been established, and the conflict of patents and of personal opinions at the present day makes it as difficult to tell now what truth is as it was 2000 years ago. We do, however, clearly know that there were no stoves in Greece and Rome. Cicero never knew the delight of a coal fire, and though Demosthenes was a man accustomed to pebbles as an article of diet—was, in fact, the Great Original Stone Eater—he was unacquainted with the taste of a broiled beefsteak. Their fires were furnaces, and the stove pipe, as well as the chimney, was unknown. Indeed many people would be surprised to learn how recently the latter has been introduced. Richard Coeur de Leon and Rudolph of Hapsburg never saw one, and the houses which are still standing that were built 500 years ago have no arrangements by which they could have been heated. Fire was then made in the center of the room. By removing the fuel to the side of the chamber, and making a recess there, a better draft and ventilation was secured, but heat was lost. Much of it escaped into the outer air.

The introduction of stoves must have rapidly followed that of chimneys in Germany, Denmark and Sweden. But in England they are little used, and have not there won a place in the affections of the people. It was in the United States, the land where the summers are as warm as those of Naples and the winters as cold as those of St. Petersburg, that this useful invention was to be improved and perfected. Necessity is the mother of invention, and we quickly experienced the truth of the adage. Dr. Franklin describes in his autobiography how his attention was attracted to the matter, and what he did in the way of improvements. It was in 1745 that he brought out his novelty, which proved so advantageous that some specimens are in existence up to the present time. The plan was a rectangular box of cast-iron plates, open in front, except near the top, with a sliding shutter by which the whole might be closed entirely or in part, either for safety or increasing the draft; the hearth projected in front, and was cast with double ledges to receive the edges of the upright plates, and also with a number of holes. Of those one was in the front part, with a regulating valve for admitting air to the fire by an air flue from beneath, when the shutter was down; one under the first upright plate in the back for discharging the air brought under the hearth from without into a narrow, rectangular box that was as long as the width of the stove and as high, excepting the space for the smoke flue over its top; it had also three near the extreme back edge for the smoke, after it had passed over and descended behind the air box to enter the flue leading into the base of the chimney. The air box at its sides was furnished with holes through which the heated air was admitted into the room, and a succession of shelves, one above another, was provided in this box, reaching not quite across, by which the circulation of the air was extended, and it was longer exposed to the heated surfaces before passing out into the room. The back plate of the stove, heated by the descending smoke flue, imparted heat to the air between it and the chimney, the stove standing a little out from the wall. A register of sheet iron was introduced in the descending flue, which could be closed wholly or in part and check the fire to any desired extent. Thus this invention embodied the principles of the modern air-tight stoves, and the directions Dr. Franklin gave for using it are just as applicable to these, though, by reason of its rudeness, the joints are not air-tight, and supposed could not well be otherwise. This stove was ornamented in front by a representation of the sun, near which were the letters intended for its name, *Alter Idem*.

In 1771, Dr. Franklin, while acting as the agent of the Pennsylvania and some other North American colonies in England, designed a stove which should consume its own smoke when burning bituminous coal. It was a vase-shaped iron vessel for receiving the fuel, set upon a horizontal grate, and beneath this was a large box of cast iron, furnished with partitions, which caused the flame and smoke drawn down the grate to circulate around until they finally escaped into the chimney by a flue at the bottom on each side. With the same object of consuming the smoke he also invented a basket or grate or cage, with movable bars at the top and bottom, the fuel being at the top and kindled. The cage might then be turned over upon pivots, which supported it by the center.

The name of Count Rumford afterward became celebrated for the improvements which he introduced in stoves, especially those designed for culinary purposes. He gradually reduced their dimensions, and contrived that most important feature of all cooking stoves, of arranging a number of pots and boilers over the flues proceeding from a single fire, and the method of roasting meats in ovens of sheet iron, without the viciands acquiring a disagreeable taste, a gentle current of air being allowed to circulate throughout the ovens.

Dr. Franklin, among his other alterations, lessened the size of the pipe for leading away the smoke. He had made the discovery that too much heat went up the chimney, but he could not completely obviate the difficulty; nor, indeed, have his successors. The history of an art is a history of continual experiments, and it needs time to determine many points. We are applying ourselves to their solution, but we should award all honors to the pioneers of science who led the march of discovery. We do more because our opportunities are greater.

Mechanics as a Science.

Although no department of science—no portion of the advancement of civilization that takes us further from barbarism—is so marked in its triumphs and so certain in its beneficial results as that devoted to mechanics, it is a fact that it does not receive its proper approval or proper reward. It is really true that the mechanic to-day paid much less for his labor, and very much less for his ideas in practical form, than others who merely reproduce and adapt the facts and settled opinions of their predecessors. The physician, the lawyer and the theologian charge and receive for their presentation of long ago acknowledged axioms, and even of new theories, handsome returns for their trouble. They are acknowledged necessities, while the mechanic is a sort of hanger-on to our civilization—a camp follower, with no recognized rank, and merely allowed place that he may prove his fitness. Certain perquisites follow the lawyer, the doctor of medicine, and the theological instructor, all of which are lacking in the case of the mechanical engineer. It is unnecessary to refer to the chances of the lawyer for rich legal fees; to mention the opportunities of the physician with his rich and hypochondriac patients; and the recognition of the religious instructor, with his faculty of dealing with the doubtful, the troubled and the despairing. From these prolific sources these professors draw their incomes, and generally without question as to their individual fitness.

But the mechanical engineer, the adapter of theoretic science to practical utility, has no such resources, and even his legitimate income is limited and its amount frequently disputed. Yet he deals with facts and realities, and not with problematical hypotheses and impractical theories. When he gives an opinion or reports a diagnosis, his statements are based on unvarying laws, which are well understood by those of his profession who are competent. On his opinion vast enterprises, involving the labor of hundreds of men for years, and the expenditure of thousands of dollars, are readily undertaken by capitalists, and it is rare that they or the poorer stockholders find themselves wrong in depending on his acumen and scientific knowledge. In short, the professional opinions of the mechanical engineer are worth all that is paid for them, seldom misleading, rarely extravagant, generally reliable. Can as much be said with truth of the professional advice of others?

Men possessing these qualifications, and on whose opinions such vast enterprises rest, ought to be well paid. It costs much in time, labor and money for a lover of mechanics to become an expert—one whose opinion and direction may be accepted as absolutely reliable, and after the ground-work of theory has been prepared there is a long novitiate of practical service before the mechanical engineer can assume the position of director. It may be said, with entire truth, that in no profession are the exactions preparatory to profit so many and the time of apprenticeship so long.

The opinions of the lawyer are subject to revision and reversal by a higher authority; those of the theologian are contracted and disputed by a hundred differing sects; those of the physician have other schools to deny their conclusions, and at best are but individual ideas, liable to be set at naught by another practitioner. But the opinions of the mechanical expert are based on known and proved facts, and are similar to those of every other competent expert. On such opinions the success or failure of vast industrial enterprises may be predicted, and on them are safely risked millions of money in untried experiments.

Iron Ore in Utah.

At the recent meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, Prof. J. S. Newberry gave a description of some iron ore deposits in Utah which he had examined recently.

The quantity of iron ore in Utah, Dr. Newberry said, was such as to throw into the shade all other known deposits in this country. He had seen enough lying loose during his short tour in the southern section of that Territory to keep all the furnaces in the United States in operation for a hundred years. One of the most striking iron deposits upon which his eye had ever rested consisted of a group of hills, from 1000 to 2000 feet high, which were penetrated to a great depth with parallel veins of iron ore. As one crosses the valley of which these eminences formed a local boundary, they are identifiable from a distance of five or six miles as masses of metal. The magnetite gives the range the appearance of mountains of coal. One of these hills rose to a greater height than the rest, and in this the iron ore was disposed in strata as exactly parallel to each other as lines could be drawn upon the blackboard. While the prevalent ore in this region was magnetite, it was, nevertheless, interspersed with abundant masses of hematite, and there were many points where the two were intimately intermixed. As one journeyed from point to point in this region the surface was found to be strewn with boulders and broken masses of iron ore. He remembered such a mass about 12 or 15 miles south of Iron City, which was 1000 feet long by 500 broad and 200 feet high—a vast castellated crag of black magnetite. Prof. Newberry had found abundant evidence in their fibrous structure of the sedimentary origin of many of these deposits. Metamorphism had gone on here upon a giant scale. Anywhere one might pick up vast masses of natural lodestone. The variety of structure was also surprising. Here was a mass as solid as cast iron; near by was a mass that was soft, decomposed and stained blood-red. Within six to ten miles of this vast deposit of iron was an abundance of the best of coal to work it, so that one could stand on the brink of an iron hill and look down upon coal enough to convert it. Prof. Newberry, in concluding his essay, predicted a great future for this region.

The fourteenth annual convention of the American Institute of Architects was held in Philadelphia recently.

The Electrolytic Determination of Silver.

It is generally known that silver can be precipitated in a compact metallic state from the solutions of silver cyanide or chloride in potassium cyanide by means of the electric current. As far back as 1865, Luckow, who introduced the same method for copper, demonstrated that silver may be quantitatively determined in this manner. He pointed out at the same time that electrolysis may be made available in other manners for the quantitative determination of silver; either (1) by the reduction of chloride of silver at the negative pole, or (2) by the separation of nitrate of silver from a neutral solution of nitrate of silver. Concerning the latter process Luckow states: "If the current from two Meißner elements is conducted through a neutral dilute solution of nitrate of silver, metallic silver in a spongy state is deposited on the platinum capsule which forms the negative pole, while at the same time the edge and the lower surface of the platinum disk forming the positive pole is covered with fine black needles of peroxide of silver, which, however, disappear almost entirely on prolonged action of the current. If, when all the silver has been deposited, the supernatant liquid is decanted off, the separated metal is repeatedly washed with water, dried sharply, and the capsule weighed; the increase of weight gives the proportion of silver in the liquid a little too low. The loss is due to the fact that a small quantity of silver is deposited on the disk of the positive pole, owing to the reduction of the peroxide."

In a more recent paper on the application of the electric current in analytical chemistry (*Zeitschrift für Anal. Chem.*), Luckow states: "Silver is precipitated by the electric current from solutions containing not more than eight to ten per cent. of free nitric acid, in a very bulky metallic state; at the same time a little peroxide is deposited at the positive pole, the formation of which may be prevented by an addition of glycerine, milk, sugar, or tartaric acid." No further information has been published on the electrolytic separation of silver from nitric solutions. In accordance with Luckow, Fresenius and Bergmann observe that silver can be easily and completely precipitated from nitric solutions, whether neutral or containing free acid, but that it is disposed to take a spongy or flocculent form, so that it easily falls off from the electrode and can not be readily weighed. The precipitate assumes this spongy state, especially when it has been deposited from a somewhat concentrated solution, by the action of a moderately strong current. By using dilute solutions and a weak current, the silver has been thrown down in a compact state, adhering firmly to the electrode and capable of being readily weighed. This result was only obtained in presence of free acid. From neutral solutions even a feeble current precipitated the silver in a flocculent state. These experiments were conducted with the same apparatus described in their memoir on the determination of nickel and cobalt. The following proportions appear suitable for obtaining the deposit of metallic silver in a compact form: In 200 cc. of liquid submitted to electrolysis there should be from 0.03 to 0.04 gram metallic silver and 3 to 6 grams free nitric acid, the electrodes being at a distance from each other of 1 cm., and the strength of the current such as to evolve 100 to 150 cc. of detaching gas per hour.

The Roberts Locomotive.—Col. E. A. L. Roberts, of Titusville, has made a contract with the Baldwin Locomotive Works to build a passenger engine which he expects will be able to run 50 miles an hour, and maintain this rate of speed for 100 miles without stopping. The locomotive is to weigh 38 tons. The driving wheels will be 6 feet in diameter. The forward trucks and those on the tender will be made of paper, which it is said will endure more strain and wear than iron or steel. The wheels will all be of the pattern known as the broad-tread, which will enable the engine to run on roads of either 4 feet 8 1/2 inches or 4 feet 10 inches gauge. The most important feature of the locomotive will be the introduction of the Roberts patent cylinder and piston, the exhaust parts being in a continuous circle around the cylinder. The tender will be so constructed as to carry a foot of water

Some Queer Pumps.

From various sources we have made a collection of strange and unusual forms of pumps, some particulars concerning which will constitute an interesting chapter in the current history of hydraulics.

Fig. 2 shows a sort of gigantic "old oaken bucket" arrangement. It consists of a brick curb around the mouth of the well, a cast-iron bed-plate resting upon this, covers for the well, and lastly a raised cast and wrought-iron frame, on which gearing for hoisting the bucket is carried. Judging from "internal evidence" it would appear that the bucket is about 3 feet high and 18 or 20 inches in diameter. It would therefore hold nearly or quite 45 gallons. The barrel is apparently balanced by a weight upon a rope passing over the grooved wheel at the top of the machine. At the side a cast-iron tank is placed to hold the water, and attached to it is some sort of an arrangement intended to automatically tip the bucket over and empty it. The power is, according to the popular expression, greatly multiplied, being about four to one. Altogether the arrangement is a novel one, though to what purpose it is put we are at a loss to imagine, as we should think a good

lifts. In such cases, the leakage under the small pressures needed bears so small a ratio to the quantity raised as to be immaterial.

Fig. 4 shows the strangest pump of all, and yet the one which in all probability is the most effective. This form of pump was discovered by Thomas Ewbank, probably 40 or 50 years ago. We say discovered, for the apparatus is so simple as to hardly be worth the name of invention, the principle only being essential. It would seem that a Mr. De Coligny is introducing the apparatus as an agricultural pump in France. The following is the substance of an article in regard to the pump which appeared in a French agricultural journal. "In a recent meeting of one of the agricultural societies, in the farm region of Laval, the jury took into consideration the question of farm pumps, and very unanimously agreed upon the advantages of ball valve pumps on account of the ease with which they passed all sorts of solid matters." It appears, however, that while they were discussing the advantages of ball valves Mr. Chemin, engineer of bridges and highways, fairly took them by surprise when he showed them the queer-looking pump which we illustrate, which has no valves at all. "Mr. Chemin offered to build a pump and set it at work

violence, and flows into a trough conveniently placed to receive it. The tube or body of the pump ought to enter the water from one-third to one-half its height.

"This is the simplest form of agricultural pump that has yet been proposed, and combines in the highest degree the following advantages: Simplicity, cheapness in construction, repairs and absence of working parts, like pistons, valves, &c. There are no delicate parts, no valves nor suckers to break or wear or leak, performing ill or not at all. For farm or other uses, for raising clean or foul liquids, like sewage or water carrying vegetable matters, it has a marked field of usefulness."

Although the French gentleman seems somewhat enthusiastic in his praise, we do not think it at all too great. This pump will doubtless do all that he claims for it and more. It certainly deserves to be better known.

We may observe that its principles were investigated by Mr. Ewbank, who spoke of them at some length in his work on hydraulics. In Fig. 6, we show the same pump with some slight modifications. A curved spout is put upon the top of the pump, so as to direct the stream of water into a trough. At the bottom a straight piece of tube is

INDUSTRIAL ITEMS.

NEW JERSEY.

The Watson Fire-brick Manufactory, at Perth Amboy, established in 1836 by John R. Watson, will in future be continued under the name of the Watson Fire-brick Co., and will be managed by his sons, J. T. & U. B. Watson, who have been engaged with him for some 20 years. The quality of the brick will be carefully kept up as heretofore, and they will bear the same stamp, viz.: "Watson's No. 1, Perth Amboy, N. J."

PENNSYLVANIA.

The Pottsville Iron and Steel Company is the name of a manufactory to be located at Pottsville, with a capital of \$450,000.

The new rolling mill of Messrs. Kimberly, Carnes & Co., at Greenville, built on the site of the one burned, will soon be ready for operation. It will be far superior to the old one, many improvements having been added, and will have 20 puddling furnaces and four heating furnaces.

Messrs. Moorhead, McLean & Co.'s Soho Furnace, at Pittsburgh, made during October 3514 and 271-2268 tons of gray forge pig iron. The last week in the month the product was 862 and 1274-2265 tons.

company expect to obtain from three to four thousand tons of better beets than last year, the cultivation having been better understood. The beets already delivered are testing from 8 to 14 per cent of saccharine matter, and the company are paying from \$3.50 to \$7 per ton for them. If they obtain the quantity of beets calculated upon, the product, under the new and improved process now in use in the new mill, will be about 550,000 pounds of raw sugar, 200,000 pounds of molasses, and 1700 tons of pulp, which is now selling at the factory to farmers at \$1 per ton. It is stated that some of the beets were allowed to remain in the ground too late in the season, and thereby were somewhat deteriorated for producing sugar. This, with other defects in the cultivation, will, it is said, be remedied the next season.

At the Edgemore Iron Works, on the Delaware, a few miles above this city, the men are working night and day. In addition to miscellaneous work they are fulfilling their contract for iron work on the elevated road of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, on Filbert street. The company have also secured the contract for the iron work of the new depot to be erected here by the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad.

OHIO.

A newly-organized corporation, of which Mr. Samuel Danks, the inventor of the mechanical puddler, is general manager, is erecting a large rolling mill at Cincinnati, intended exclusively for the manufacture of plates. It will contain 10 Danks' puddling furnaces.

The Perin & Gaff Manufacturing Company, of Cincinnati, have done a very heavy business this year. A large force of operators are employed turning out tools of various kinds and shelf and builders' hardware. During this year the products of this establishment have been more than double, and it is expected that the trade of the coming spring will be more than double that of any season in the history of the company. Besides the regular line of shelf and builders' hardware, the company manufactures a number of specialties for the trade.

ILLINOIS.

An important addition to the iron manufacturing interests of Chicago has just been made in the completion of an extensive blast furnace by the Jos. H. Brown Iron and Steel Company, at their works near South Chicago, a few miles south of the city limits. The iron mill of this company was opened in 1876 for the manufacture of merchant bar iron and rails, and has a capacity of about 100 tons of bar iron per day and about 5000 kegs of nails per week. Heretofore the company has procured its pig iron from all directions, East and South, but its blast furnace enables it to take the ore from Lake Superior and the Menominee district and reduce it to pig iron at the rate of 1000 tons of pig per week. The new furnace is 18 feet bosh and 75 feet high, and is built with the Siemens-Copper hot blast. One blowing engine, 52-inch steam cylinder, 90-inch blast cylinder, 6 foot stroke, with condenser, variable cut-off and governor has also been added. The furnace was erected by Gen. J. T. Torrence, general manager of the company, who has had great experience in iron manufacture, and says that the blowing in was one of the most successful starts he ever made. The first cast of iron, says the *Railway Age*, was 12½ tons of No. 3 foundry, the second 24 tons, cast every six hours. The company have in course of construction another blowing engine of about the same capacity, which will soon be in operation. With these additional improvements 150 more men will be employed. At present they employ about 1000 hands per week. The Joseph H. Brown Company was the pioneer of iron manufacture in the southern suburbs of Chicago, and its energy and enterprise have done much to bring other great manufacturing establishments into that region. The officers are: President, Joseph H. Brown; treasurer, F. W. Newland; general manager, Joseph T. Torrence. Chicago is taking an important position as an iron manufacturing center, having now five blast furnaces in operation and six building. The North Chicago Rolling Mill Company have two furnaces running, and are building four at South Chicago, two of which are expected to be in operation by February 1. The Union Rolling Mill Company have two in operation and are building two more. The total capacity of these 11 furnaces will be not far from 1000 tons per day.

INDIANA.

The South Bend Iron Works, at South Bend, manufacturing the Oliver chilled plows, have, in the past 18 months, increased the capacity of their works about double, and such has been the demand for their plows that they are now running far behind their orders. They report sales of plows for 1880 up to about the 1st of November \$5,000, and say that they could have sold 15,000 more if they could have made them in time. They anticipate a still greater increase of sales in the coming year.

MISSOURI.

The St. Louis Refining and Smelting Works, at Cheltenham, about five miles from St. Louis, have been destroyed by fire. The loss is about \$75,000; insured for \$48,700. The fire was caused by the bursting of one of the smelting furnaces containing 25 tons of molten lead.

Protection Against Fire on the Steamboat Narragansett.—When the steamer Narragansett, which was sunk by the Stonington in the Sound on the night of June 11 last, was raised, there was a large hole in the side of the hull, and the upper works had been burned away. She was towed to the shipyard at Noank, the hull was repaired and the engines were rebuilt. The arrangement of the cabin and state-rooms is essentially the same as before, and a new feature of the boat is a boiler-iron fire-proof compartment which surrounds the boilers. This provision against accident by fire was recommended by the coroner's jury in the Seawanhaka case, and thus far the Narragansett is the only boat running through the Sound which is thus protected. The boilers stand upon a floor of brick, laid in cement. The boiler-plate walls about them extend up above the hurricane deck, and the entrance to the engine-room, and indeed all other entrances, can be closed promptly by iron



Fig. 1.—French Vibrating Pump on Portable Stand.

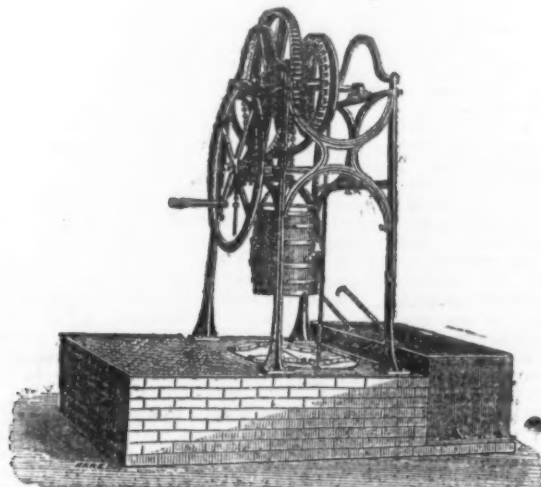


Fig. 2.—The Old Oaken Bucket in a New Form.

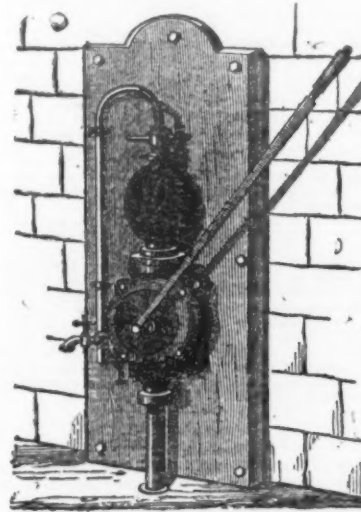


Fig. 3.—Vibrating Pump, Mounted on a Board.

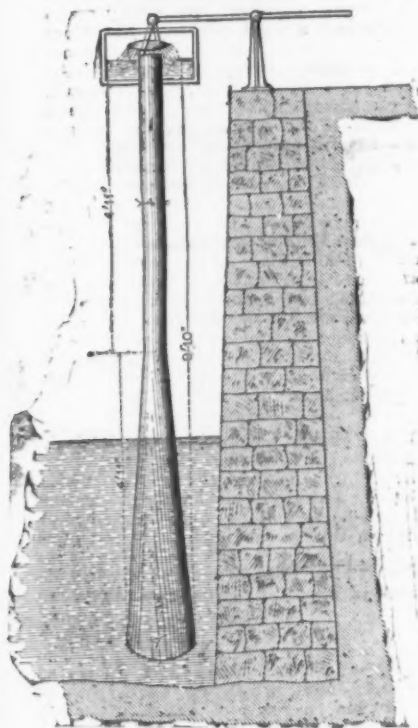


Fig. 4.—A French Jet Pump



Fig. 5.—Vibrating Pump, Mounted in a Deep Well and Worked by a Crank.

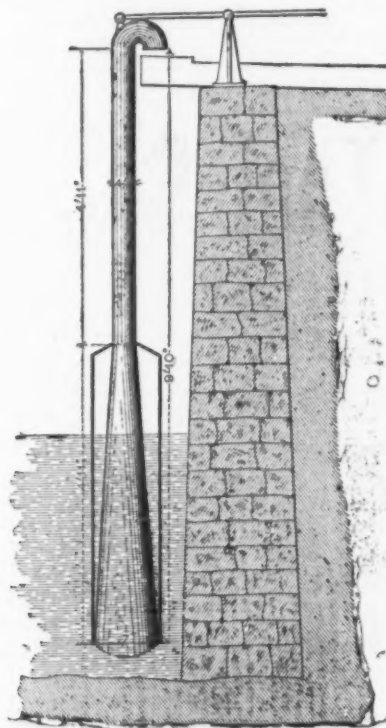


Fig. 6.—Jet Pump with Curved Spout.

SOME "QUEER" PUMPS BY FRENCH AND ENGLISH INVENTORS.

pump would be much cheaper and would work with greater economy of power. There is this to be said for such an apparatus, when the cog wheels are strongly made, that in countries where repairs are difficult to get such an apparatus is valuable because of its simplicity and strength, and any wear that may take place does not make any perceptible alteration in the working of the machine.

In Figs. 1, 3 and 5 we have some forms of a pump of French origin. Fig. 1 represents the pump mounted on a portable frame apparently set up for show. The whole apparatus is exceedingly compact in form, and the valves seem to be concealed in the case, which contains what we suppose must be the semi-rotating piston. Fig. 3 shows the pump attached to a plank for use in a house or against a wall. Fig. 5 shows the arrangement when the pump is placed in a deep well. The latter one illustrates the fondness which European engineers show for crank arrangements when applying manpower. The simplest form for driving a pump of this kind is, of course, a lever after the fire-engine fashion. The unequal wear of all pumps of this kind is one of the insurmountable objections to them. Do what we will, the piston fixed at the center, or at one side, wears faster there than at the outer edge, and unfortunately this kind of wear cannot be taken up by any known form of packing. Such pumps, therefore, work well for a time and then begin to fall off in their performances. Repacking only helps them for a short time and then they are as bad as ever, and at last they have to be thrown away. One or two of our American pump makers have pumps of this pattern, which are very useful for raising liquids to a small height, as in discharging barrels or pumping water through short

for the jury, and his offer being accepted he set one of these pumps at work with little delay in the sluice of the Mayenne. The ease and speed with which the apparatus was erected and set at work greatly increased the interest felt by the jury in the pump. They were greatly surprised to find that the pump was constructed simply of an open funnel and an old, disused pipe, and that no valves were used. A plain sheet metal pipe of iron (though it could be of sheet zinc), about 4 inches in diameter and 4 feet 11 inches long, formed the body of the pump. Below, the funnel-shaped portion widened until at the bottom it was a fraction over 7 inches, with a total length of 9 feet 10 inches. This tube forms at once both body and working parts of this unique pump. The top of the tube is surmounted by a hemispherical cap to arrest the upward flow of water. The cap is attached to the tube by straps, and the whole apparatus is fastened at the end of a horizontal lever, which is pivoted in the manner shown in the sketch. The object of this is to give the pump body an upward and downward motion in a vertical direction. By giving the pump body a regular up-and-down motion by means of the lever timed according to the size and flare of the funnel-shaped portion, the water rises after a few seconds, the time depending somewhat upon the speed of the strokes, and flows from the top. This phenomenon, though valuable, escapes calculation. The committee proved that the pump was capable of raising water about 14 feet above the source of supply. At each sharp immersion of the pipe, caused by the motion of the lever, the quantity of water discharged is greater than would be expected from a solid piston working in the pipe and having an equal movement. The water thus raised strikes the cap with

slipped down over the flaring part. This is done so as to make the upward stroke of the pump easier. This is practically the form suggested by Mr. Ewbank. For all sorts of pumping where large quantities of water or semi fluid solids are to be lifted short distances, this is probably one of the most economical forms of pumping apparatus that has been devised. In saying this, we, of course, take into consideration the cost of the apparatus and the ease of operation.

The engineers of the St. Gothard Tunnel are stated to be in a fair way to overcome the difficulty arising from the falling in of the roof in the part known as the "windy stretch." This stretch, which is 200 meters long and situated directly under the plain of Andermatt, passes through strata composed alternately of gypsum and aluminous and calcareous schists, which absorb moisture like a sponge and swell on exposure to the atmosphere. It has given the contractors immense trouble, and has fallen in so often that it was seriously proposed a short time ago to allow it to collapse and make a bend, so as to avoid the "windy stretch" altogether. The expedient now adopted, which has so far been successful, is the rebuilding of the supporting masonry in rings of solid granite. The rings are each 4 meters long, so that in the event of any one of them giving way the others will not thereby be affected. The building is constructed slowly and with the utmost care; no imperfect stones are allowed to be used; the masonry is perfect and the walls of extraordinary thickness—in the parts most exposed to pressure not less than 10 feet. At the beginning of June only 34 meters of the "windy stretch" required to be revalued.

The new furnace C of the Edgar Thomson Steel Company, Limited, near Pittsburgh, was satisfactorily blown in on the 8th inst. Dimensions, 80 x 20 feet.

The large rolling mill and steel works of Henry Diston & Sons, at Tacony, near Philadelphia, are completed and being gradually put in full operation. The building has a front of 200 feet on the river and a depth of 160 feet. The concern is the most complete in its machinery and processes in the country. Messrs. Diston & Sons have also erected in the vicinity, during the season, 22 additional dwelling houses for the occupancy of the employees at the different establishments at Tacony.

The new cordage works of Edwin H. Fittler & Co., just north of the Bridesburg Arsenal, are already beginning to show their vast proportions. The cordage house, 315 by 50 feet, is nearly up to its full height of three stories, and the rafters are being raised over a portion of it. The foundation of the storage-house, fronting on Tacony road 250 feet, running back 100 feet, is laid. Excavation for the chimney-stacks, 140 feet high, is in progress. The piling for the wharf on the river front of the property is rapidly progressing. The wharf will extend out 600 feet. The material for the other buildings is being delivered on the grounds, and work on them will be continued during the winter, or as long as the weather will permit.

DELAWARE.

The new sugar mill of the Delaware Beet Sugar Co., at Riverside, a short distance above Wilmington, commenced operations last Monday, and are working up fifty tons of green beets per day. Last year the entire product of sugar beets in Delaware amounted to about 300 tons, but this season the

doors. The Stonington, the sister ship of the Narragansett, is to be similarly protected. At the time of the collision the rubber gas lamps or bags on the Narragansett were exploded and ignited by the headlight of the Stonington. The new boat will use gas stored under pressure in six steel cylinders. The kitchen, oil and paint lockers of the Narragansett are also fire-proof by reason of galvanized iron linings to their walls and ceilings. The new boilers have also been improved. The smokestacks are made a part of them up to a point above decks, so that if in any case the stacks above should go overboard, enough would remain rigidly attached to the boilers to insure a draft and the keeping up of the fires.

The Tinman's Squaring Shears.

The Metal Worker says: We want to enter a protest in behalf of tin and sheet iron workers against squaring shears as they are commonly built at the present time. In general they may be characterized as trifling, not only in design, but in the details of their construction. Part of their faults, and perhaps a very large part, arises from the fact that in buying tools the first question raised is the price, regardless of improvements or advantages of other patterns. Sheet metal workers themselves have, in fact, offered a premium for the cheapest, poorest and most flimsily constructed tools which could be made. In the common squaring shears the legs are attached to the body in such a way that after a very little usage the whole thing becomes rickety, as though it were made of basket-work instead of iron. In some patterns the only connections between the frame and the legs are a couple of set screws. At the bottom the only bracing which the legs have is the rod upon which the treadle is hung. This adds nothing whatever to their steadiness. It is little wonder, then, that after a comparatively small amount of usage they become ramshackle affairs. At the sides are usually two T-shaped castings in which the upper knife rises and falls. These are held to the frame by a couple of set screws. This construction would be well enough if a sufficient quantity of metal were used. For the purpose of moving the upper knife back against the lower one or keeping it in that position, two long set-screws are used, which stick out in the front of the machine, sometimes as much as 2 inches from the bed plate, and make admirable projections for scraping knuckles, catching clothes and work. Now, as these T-pieces have to be moved only a fraction of an inch, we cannot see any use of putting in a screw 2 inches long to effect this adjustment. The amount of movement in this direction needed by the principal blade is only enough to compensate for the grinding. So this 2-inch screw with its square head is a double waste of material, since it is inconvenient as well as useless.

Usually the connection between the T or side pieces and the bed plate is none of the best. The set-screws, by which they are held, work in slotted holes, and the strains are resisted by friction only; as a consequence of this the connection is anything but a secure one. The guides in which the principal knife rises and falls in some machines are practically without any compensation for wear. This is bad, but it is rendered worse by the fact that the metal is not thick enough to withstand the strains brought upon it without springing, and the surfaces are so small that a good deal of wear takes place necessarily. We do not suppose that with slots of proper size and bearing surfaces large enough to do their work, appreciable wear would take place in 20 years, but by reason of bad treatment or a variety of circumstances, it is necessary to be provided with an arrangement for taking up the wear. It has been found in machine tools of the very best grade that this is necessary, even in bearings which, theoretically, ought never to show any signs of wear. Thus, in drills, where a plain rod is made to fit easily in a plain cylindrical hole, after a time, from hardening of the oil or the accumulation of dust, wearing or cutting begins and continues rapidly unless some means is provided for opening the bearing, cleaning it and putting it in good condition. After wear once takes place, adjustment is, of course, necessary.

The knife bar itself, in most of the machines which we have examined, is altogether too small and too light to hold the knives straight. The connection between the bed and the gauges—or, rather, the slotted irons which hold the gauges—is usually of a flimsy character, and a single set screw is employed, together with dovetails, to make the thing secure. As the surfaces are undressed, the screws do not have a sufficient hold upon the metal to make the joint a firm one. The same is true of the set-screws, holding the gauges themselves in the slots. They slip and slide about, unless the greatest care is taken. The rule is that they don't stay. It is always necessary to hunt up a monkey wrench to set them, which, we think, is unnecessary. They should be made so that they could be set by hand in some way.

In the back gauges it is the exception, rather than the rule, to find the screws on different sides interchangeable, yet they are not marked to show which is which; in fact, the work throughout is so cheap that the parts cannot or have not been made really interchangeable. The excuse is that the low price at which the machines have to be sold makes it necessary to economize in every possible way in their manufacture.

The back gauges are radically wrong in their shape. Something more is needed than the simple step. The outer end of a piece of tin when shoved under the knife, if the metal is light or if the gauge is set well back, drops down so that the gauge is of no use. Sometimes, to avoid this trouble, workmen turn the gauges around with the back side facing the front, and rest the outer edge of the tin upon the ledge thus obtained. Other times a man or boy is sent around behind the machine to hold the metal up while the one in front cuts. Now, there is no reason why there should not be a projection upon the under side of the gauge upon which the sheet of metal to be cut can rest.

The sizes of the squaring shears are not

what they should be. There are only two regularly in the market, the 20 inch and the 30 inch, yet, according to the sizes of sheets and the work that the sheet metal worker has to do, there are wanted not only 20-inch or 30-inch, but also 4 feet, 6 feet and 8 feet shears. The last three sizes have, so far as we know, been made to order only, and some works have had considerable difficulty in getting a good article. We see no difficulty in the way of designing, and building for the general market, squaring shears that would cut a sheet of metal of the ordinary gauges 8 feet or more wide.

There is a great deal of work considered difficult and annoying by the country tin-smith, and of which complaints are made, which is directly traceable to the fact that good squaring shears which will work with anything like reasonable accuracy are difficult to obtain. What is needed are shears that are both strong, accurate, convenient and capable of being easily adjusted. Shears of this kind could not be made like snips and swedges, to be sold by the dozen; they must be built like presses, punches and similar heavy machines. The quantity of metal will have to be greatly increased, and more work bestowed upon the shears. The quality of the work must also be improved. When shears are built in this way they will be found to be not only more accurate, but more durable.

Bulldozing a Shareholder in England.

A novel performance which took place at the half-yearly meeting of the Grand Trunk Railway, held in London on October 28, is related by the *Railway World*. After an elaborate address descriptive of the condition and prospects of the company had been made by the president, Sir Henry W. Tyler, which concluded with a motion that the accounts and reports be received and adopted, and after this motion was seconded by the vice-president, a discontented shareholder, Mr. Hales, rose to address the meeting. The audience was indisposed to listen to his criticisms, and by a loud clamor and cries of "chair" and "sit down," gave very pointed evidence of their desire to dispense with his eloquence. Mr. Hales, however, insisted upon his right to address the meeting, which, in turn, persisted in asserting its indisposition to hear him by a continued uproar and by shouts of "turn him out." At this stage a motion was made and seconded that Mr. Hales be not heard. The president put this motion to the meeting, and it was carried unanimously. Despite this emphatic decision, Mr. Hales insisted on continuing his speech, whereupon he was forcibly ejected from the room by an athletic stockholder, amid the cheers of the audience. The president then expressed his conviction that it is not the wish of the meeting to hear him, he ought to sit down, and the discussion of the report proceeded without further interruption. The method of suppressing Mr. Hales was evidently regarded as exceptional, and as perhaps of doubtful legal validity; but the shareholders placed such a high value upon the service rendered that before adjourning they unanimously agreed to a resolution which approved the act of the gentleman who ejected the unpopular orator, and directed the solicitor of the company to represent him, at the company's cost, in any proceedings that might be instituted on account of the summary ejection.

Petroleum Exports.

The following figures give the condensed history of the export trade in petroleum, the proportion of crude to refined having been about equal in the earlier years, but recently only a small share being crude. A small amount was exported in 1862, but no record was kept of it, and for 1862-63 the return is not complete, quite as much more having gone out as "unenumerated," a favorite evasion with the incompetent statisticians of that time:

Fiscal years.	Gallons.	Value.
1862-63.....	155,874	\$67,839
1863-64.....	23,210,359	10,784,689
1864-65.....	23,470,569	16,548,069
1865-66.....	20,748,297	14,373,913
1866-67.....	70,235,481	24,407,683
1867-68.....	78,769,314	21,588,949
1868-69.....	100,309,132	31,074,445
1869-70.....	113,728,423	32,659,660
1870-71.....	140,677,585	36,880,040
1871-72.....	144,713,307	34,316,066
1872-73.....	187,054,113	41,921,190
1873-74.....	245,978,698	41,103,316
1874-75.....	219,202,450	39,891,465
1875-76.....	241,078,748	38,722,580
1876-77.....	306,028,294	61,479,082
1877-78.....	334,871,013	66,958,887
1878-79.....	375,008,972	80,094,527
1879-80.....	435,785,966	87,109,258

In this short but most remarkable commercial history the country has received a total of \$562,992,645 for its surplus of a mineral article unknown up to 1860 as an article of commerce. The quantity exported was 3,061,710,622 gallons, or 76,542,765 barrels, a quantity almost inconceivable for its mere magnitude. Surely this result justifies the predictions and estimates of those who claimed and hoped that a great commercial product would be developed, and who insisted that this was a vast primary deposit analogous to coal itself, and as little likely to be at once exhausted as coal. On the contrary, many scientists classified it as an organic product, the expressed oil of the unlucky mollusks of the carboniferous era, and therefore likely to be exhausted from the sand-rock when the gas should all escape. Absurd as many theories were we can afford to laugh at them now that it has profited us by the vast sum of \$1,000,000,000, one-half or more—namely, \$563,000,000—having already been paid us in cash by foreign nations.

Two somewhat similar electric lamps are attracting considerable attention at the present time. Both have been repeatedly referred to in the columns of *The Iron Age*, but neither has until now reached that stage when it has passed successfully out of the domain of a laboratory experiment. The Sawyer and the Maxim lamps are both con-

* One month's estimated at one-eleventh of 12 months.

structed on the incandescent principle, and possess the great advantage common to all such lights of great steadiness and absence of the glare that is so inconvenient in electric air lamps. The Maxim light, which is being exhibited in this city, resembles somewhat that of Edison. The carbon filament, however, instead of being a simple loop, has a double reversed curve like a capital M, with the upper and middle corners rounded. The sealing of the vacuum, or partial vacuum, is claimed to be accomplished in some other way than by fusing the glass, which is Edison's patent. On the top of the globe are small pieces of red matter, like sealing wax, and this is said to be the sealing matter. In one of his patents Mr. Maxim claims "a hydro-carbon vacuum or highly rarefied hydro-carbon vapor" in a sealed globe for electric lighting: the combination of the carbon filament with the hydro-carbon vacuum; the process of producing this vacuum is a globe, "by displacing the air contained in it with liquid hydro-carbon, expelling a portion of such hydro-carbon by heat and exhausting the remainder; appliances for sealing the globe with wax or pitch." In a later one it reads "the process of removing atmospheric oxygen from the globe of an electric lamp, consisting of first exhausting or otherwise removing the greater part of the air contained in such globe, and then admitting thereto and exhausting therefrom a hydro-carbon vapor or gas."

Iron Making in California.—Our San Francisco contemporaries state that several wealthy capitalists of San Francisco have formed a company and erected large works, at an expense of \$100,000, which will give employment to 100 men, for smelting iron ores found near Auburn, Placer County. The deposits are said to be very large, and it is thought that the ores, which are hematites and magnetites, much like those of the Lake Superior region, will be easily worked. The enterprise, which is undertaken with great confidence, will soon be past the period of experiment. Another company of San Francisco gentlemen has been formed to erect smelting works near other iron deposits which have been for some time known to exist in Sierra County. Still another deposit of iron, and probably much more extensive than either of the others, has recently been discovered near the McCloud River, in Shasta County. The ores, which are also hematites and magnetites, are found in connection with limestone, which crops out along a hillside for a distance of 1000 feet. The locality will soon be examined by the State Mining Bureau, and an opinion given regarding the extent of the deposit, the character of the ores, and the difficulties to be overcome in working them. If everything is found favorable, there is little doubt that a third company will be formed and furnaces in operation, before many months, in Shasta County. The geological formation of the McCloud is carboniferous, and it is to be hoped that coal will be discovered in the vicinity, which would supply one of the most important agents used in smelting.

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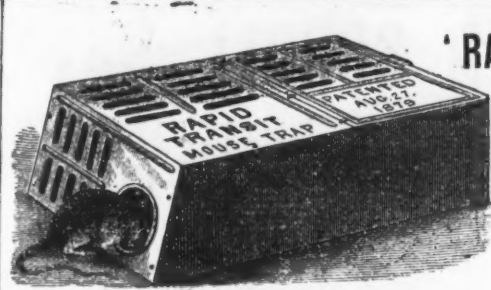
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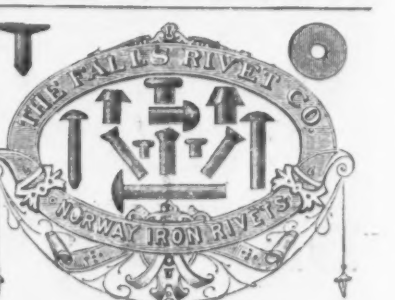
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Handles, Spokes &c.

Hunter & Plankers, N. Y. 38

Hangers, Barn Door.

Kidder Slide Door Hanger Co., Romeo, Mich. 38

S. H. & E. Moore, Chicago, Ill. 38

Hardware, Commercial.

Fernald & Sise, 100 Chambers, N. Y. 38

Graham & Haines, 113 Chambers, N. Y. 38

Iron, Charcoal, Warm or Cold Blast.

Landolt Chas. G. (Sweden), Boston, Mass. 38

Quincy John W., 58 William, N. Y. 35

Iron Commission Merchants.

Ballie J. F. & Co., 52 Wall, N. Y. 35

Hoberton & Co., Philadelphia. 38

Landolt Chas. G. (Sweden), Boston, Mass. 38

Mohr J. J., 40 Walnut, Philadelphia. 38

Richardson J. O., 25 Dock, Philadelphia. 38

Waller A. & R., 25 Walnut, Phila. 38

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Abel Brothers, 120 South, N. Y. 38

Adams Rich W. & Pines, N. Y. 38

Bonell, Botsford & Co., Youngstown, O. 38

Borden & Lovell, 30 and 32 West, N. Y. 38

Carmichael & Emery, 100 and 102 Cedar, N. Y. 38

Conover Daniel F., 85 Chambers, N. Y. 38

Easton Bros. & Co., 100 South, N. Y. 38

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Hoffman J. W. & Co., 208 S. Fourth, Philadelphia. 38

Judson B. F., 17 and 19 Water, N. Y. 38

Waller A. & R., 25 Walnut, Phila. 38

Lissner S. A., 420 E. 10th, N. Y. 38

Lunenburg Gustaf, 18 Kilby, Boston, Mass. 38

Landolt Chas. G. (Sweden), Boston, Mass. 38

Matheson & Grant, 32 Walbrook, London, Eng. 38

Middleton W. S., 53 John, N. Y. 38

O'Brien & Wallace, 87, 89 and 91 Elm, N. Y. 38

Pieron & Co., 24 Broadway, N. Y. 38

Quincy John W., 58 William, N. Y. 35

Richards D. W. & Co., 62 Main, N. Y. 38

Waller A. & R., 25 Walnut, Phila. 38

Wallace Wm. H. & Co., Albany and Washington streets, N. Y. 38

Waller A. & R., 25 Walnut, Phila. 38

Waller A. & R., 25 Walnut, Phila. 38

Waller A. & R., 25 Walnut, Phila. 38

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Waller A. & R., 25 Walnut, Phila.

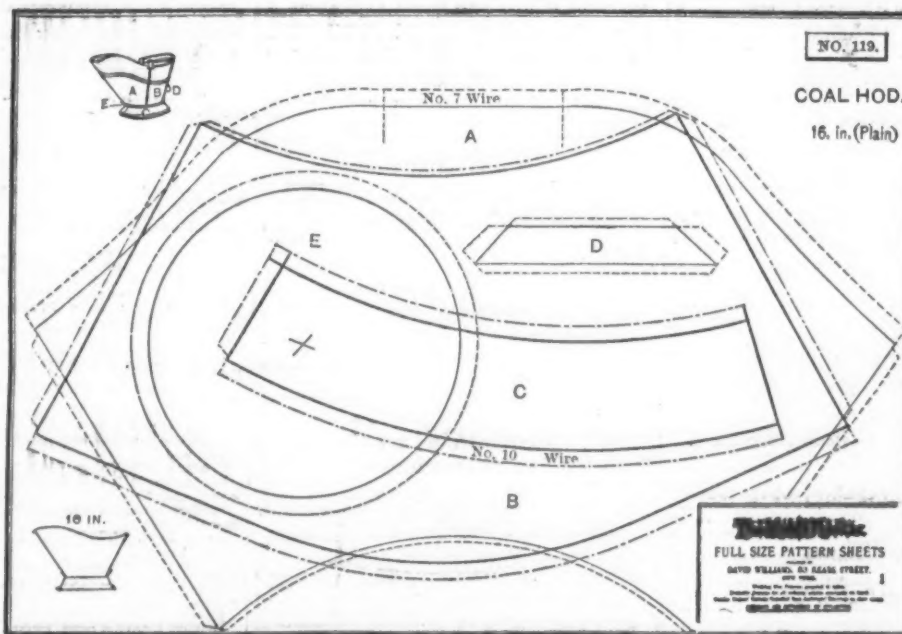
THE METAL WORKER FULL SIZE PATTERN SHEETS.

The Metal Worker patterns are neatly printed on sheets of white paper. Transfers to the tin may be made from them by pricking through, or by any other plan suiting the purchaser.

The net patterns are shown by solid lines, while edges and allowances for joints are shown by dotted lines. By this arrangement edges may be varied to suit the taste of the workman, or to adapt the patterns to different machines and to different grades of stock.

EVERY PATTERN IS TESTED AND ALL ARE WARRANTED.

Dimensions of the finished articles are shown upon the pattern sheets by



Miniature Fac Simile (Quarter Full Size) of one of The Metal Worker Full Size Pattern Sheets.

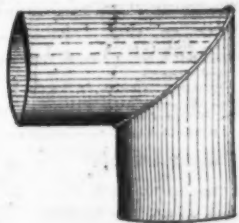
diagrams. Size of wire for which edges have been calculated is stated in figures. Actual capacity is given in connection with all articles usually designated by contents.

Each pattern is calculated to cut material to the best advantage, and a diagram showing how the parts may be placed upon the stock to cut economically is printed upon each pattern sheet.

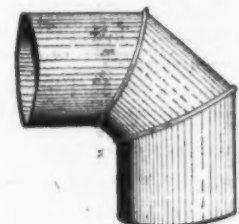
A memorandum of the quantity of material required to cut a dozen or a gross, as the case may be, also accompanies each sheet. In short, we have spared neither labor nor expense in producing patterns of the most desirable character for tinner's use.

CATALOGUE.

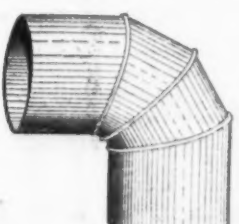
STOVE PIPE ELBOWS.



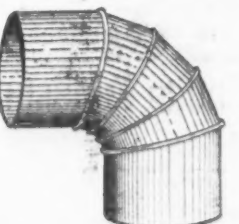
No.	Size of pipe	Pieces	Price.
35	4 ins.	2	\$.25
39	4 1/2 "	2	".25
43	5 "	2	".25
47	5 1/2 "	2	".25
51	6 "	2	".25
55	6 1/2 "	2	".25
59	7 "	2	".25



No.	Size of pipe	Pieces	Price.
36	4 ins.	3	\$.25
40	4 1/2 "	3	".25
44	5 "	3	".25
48	5 1/2 "	3	".25
52	6 "	3	".25
56	6 1/2 "	3	".25
60	7 "	3	".25

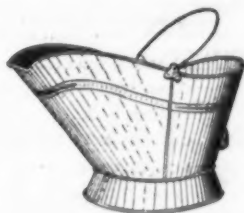


No.	Size of pipe	Pieces	Price.
37	4 ins.	4	\$.25
41	4 1/2 "	4	".25
45	5 "	4	".25
49	5 1/2 "	4	".25
53	6 "	4	".25
57	6 1/2 "	4	".25
61	7 "	4	".25



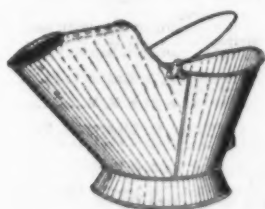
No.	Size of pipe	Pieces	Price.
38	4 ins.	5	\$.25
42	4 1/2 "	5	".25
46	5 "	5	".25
50	5 1/2 "	5	".25
54	6 "	5	".25
58	6 1/2 "	5	".25
62	7 "	5	".25

COAL HODS (Plain).



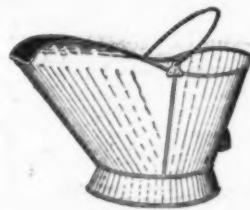
No.	Inches.	Price.
117	14	\$.25
118	15	".25
119	16	".25
120	17	".25
121	18	".25

COAL HODS (Funnel).



No.	Inches.	Price.
123	16	\$.25
127	18	".25
128	19	".25

COAL HODS ("Utility").



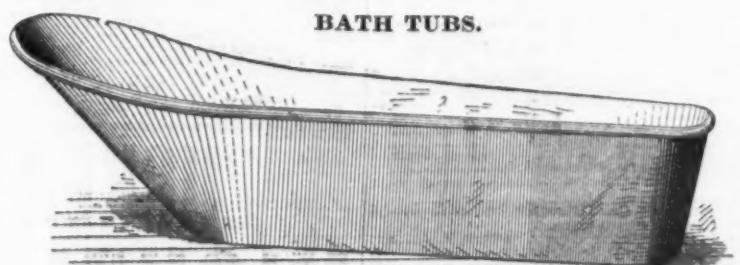
No.	Inches.	Price.
129	14	\$.25
130	15	".25
131	16	".25
132	17	".25
133	18	".25

KEROSENE CANS (with Spouts).



No.	Nominal Capacity.	Price.
71	1 quart.	\$.25
72	2 "	".25
73	4 "	".25

BATH TUBS.



Number.	Price.
108	Plunge Bath (6 feet).....\$1.00

COFFEE POTS (with Spouts).



No.	Actual Capacity.	Price.
63	1 quart.	\$.25
64	1 1/2 "	".25
65	2 "	".25
66	3 "	".25

WATER PITCHERS.



No.	Capacity.	Price.
125	with Lip.....2 quart.	\$.25

LIPPED MEASURES.



No.	Capacity.	Price.
97	1/2 pint.	\$.25
98	3/4 "	".25
99	1 "	".25
100	1 quart.	".25
101	2 "	".25
102	1 gallon.	".25
103	2 "	".25

ROUND FLARING PANS.



No.	Depth.	Actual Capacity.	Price.
1	2 1/2 ins.	1 1/4 pints	\$.25
2	2 1/2 "	2 1/2 "	".25
3	2 1/2 "	3 1/2 "	".25
4	3 1/2 "	2 1/2 quarts.	".25
5	3 1/2 "	3 1/2 "	".25
6	3 1/2 "	4 1/2 "	".25
7	2 1/2 "	4 "	".25
8	3 "	5 1-6 "	".25
9	3 1/2 "	8 "	".25
11	3 1/2 "	6 "	".25
12	3 1/2 "	10 "	".25

MILK STRAINER PAILS.



No.	Nominal Capacity.	Price.
80	6 quarts.	\$.25
81	10 "	".25
82	14 "	".25

COFFEE BOILERS (With Lips).



No.	Actual capacity.	Price.
22	1 quart.	\$.25
23	1 1/4 "	".25
24	2 1/4 "	".25
25	3 1/4 "	".25

WATER PITCHERS.



No.	Capacity.	Price.
126	Fancy Top...2 quart.	\$.25

OVAL FLARING PANS.



No.	Depth.	Actual Capacity.	Price.
19	3 1/2 ins.	6 1/2 quarts	\$.25
20	3 1/2 "	4 "	".25
21	2 1/2 "	2 1/2 "	".25

DISH PANS.



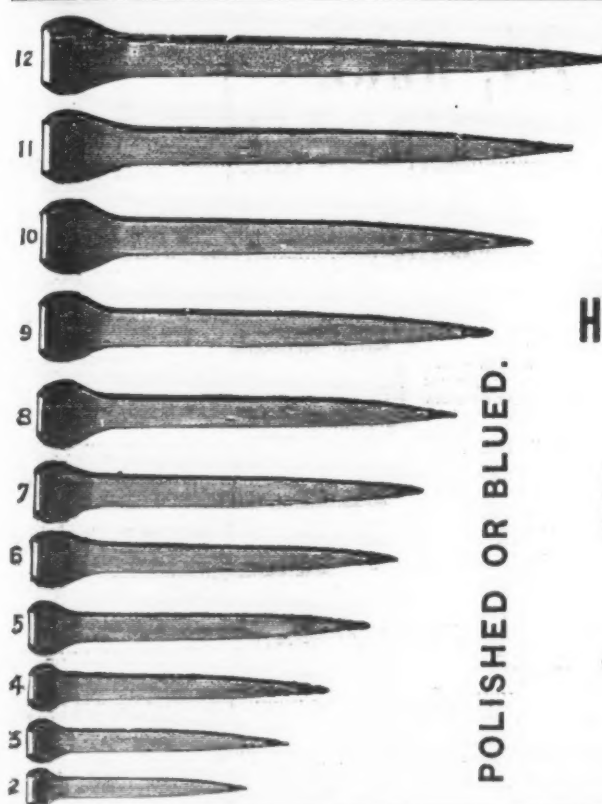
No.	Depth.	Actual Capacity.	Price.
10	6 1-6 ins.	10 qts.	\$.25
13	5 1/4 "	12 "	".25

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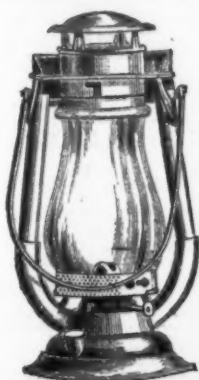
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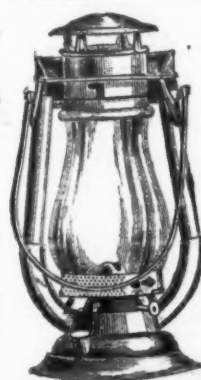
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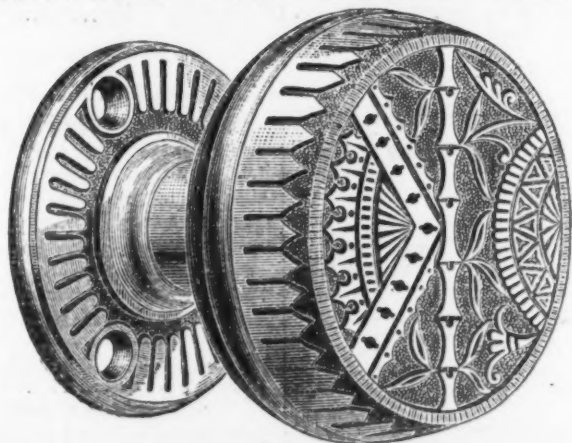
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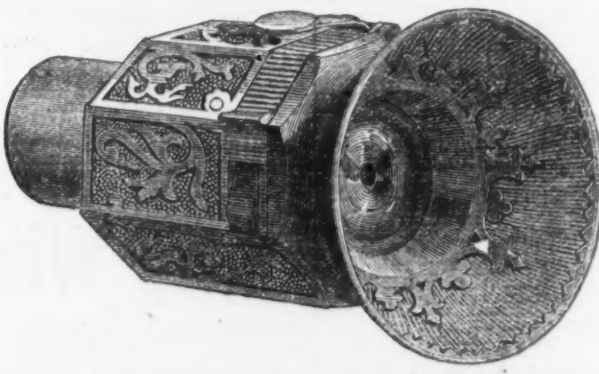
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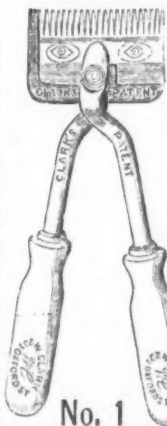
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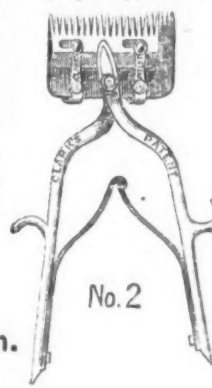
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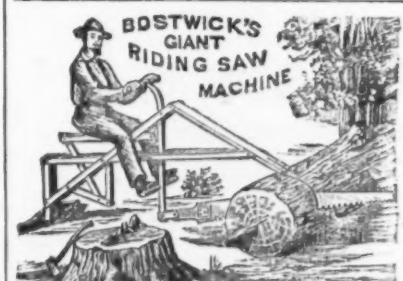
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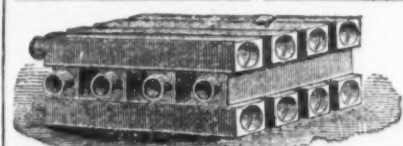
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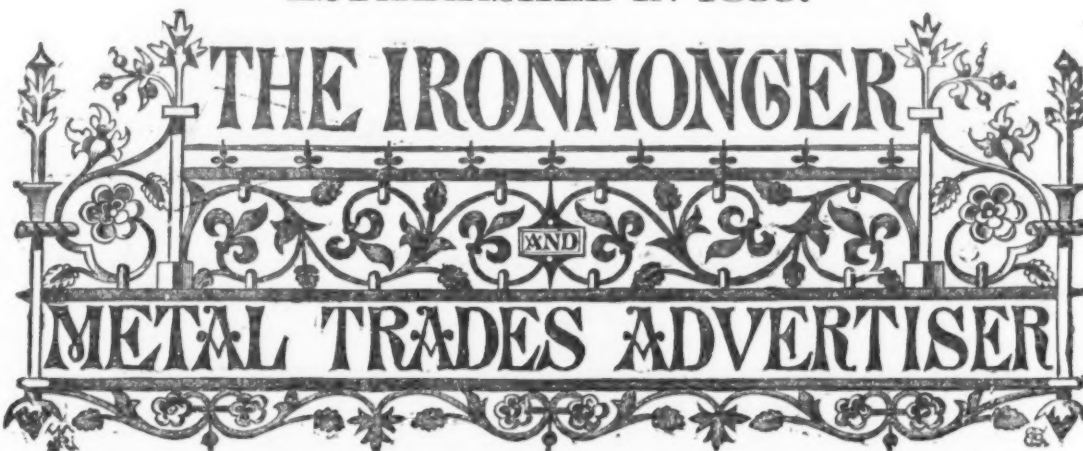
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SPECIAL ISSUES.

In the spring and autumn of each year there is published a Special Issue, the circulation of which is not less than Twelve Thousand (12,000) copies.

THE IRONMONGERS' DIARY AND TEXT BOOK.

This is an annual presented free to every Subscriber to the *IRONMONGER AND METAL TRADES' ADVERTISER*. It contains a large number of ruled skeleton pages for diary and other entries, and in addition much useful reference information, varied from year to year. It is handsomely bound in cloth, gilt, and as copies are used in thousands of establishments for a whole year, it is obviously a medium of exceptional value for advertisements. Sold to non-subscribers at 75 cents.

THE FOREIGN SUPPLEMENT

Is published every fourth week in connection with the extensive and world-wide circulation of the *Ironmonger* itself. The dates of its publication for the next twelve months will be as follows:

DECEMBER 11, JANUARY 8, 1881, FEBRUARY 5, MARCH 5, APRIL 2 and 30, MAY 26, JUNE 25, JULY 23, AUGUST 20, SEPTEMBER 17, OCTOBER 8, NOVEMBER 5.

This Supplement is published in

FIVE LEADING COMMERCIAL LANGUAGES

of the world, including English, and is sent to all the countries where they are spoken, thus placing the contents of the *Ironmonger* not only within reach but in the native language of eighty millions of German, forty-two millions of French, twenty-eight millions of Italian, and fifty-one millions of Spanish speaking people; or, in all, over two hundred millions of inhabitants in the principal nations where the best purchasers of manufactured goods are to be found.

Advertisements are inserted in any language at the following

MODERATE TARIFF.

Size of Page—13½ Inches Deep by 9½ Inches Wide.

	13 INSERTIONS, each net.	7 INSERTIONS, each net.	3 INSERTIONS, each net.		13 INSERTIONS, each net.	7 INSERTIONS, each net.	3 INSERTIONS, each net.
One page.....	Gold. \$30.00	Gold. \$33.75	Gold. \$37.50	Quarter page.....	Gold. \$10.00	Gold. \$11.25	Gold. \$12.50
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One-third page.....	12.50	14.10	15.65	One-sixteenth page.....	3.20	3.40	4.00

Advertisers will do well to use illustrations freely. Where economy of space is an object, a left page illustrated and described in one language can be suitably described in four or more languages on the opposite or right page without illustration.

THE WHOLE FOREIGN HARDWARE TRADE,

so far as our experience of twenty years is concerned, will be covered by THE FOREIGN SUPPLEMENT at least twice a year. Thus a Price List or Advertisement inserted in the *Ironmonger* and Foreign Supplement is a strikingly powerful and most efficient way of publicity not to be compared with any of the other ordinary channels of communication.

B. KREISCHER & SONS, FIRE BRICK.

BEST AND CHEAPEST.
Established 1845.
Office, foot of Houston Street, East River,
NEW YORK.

NEWTON & CO.,

ALBANY, N. Y., Manufacturers of

FIRE BRICK

Stove Linings,

Range and Heater Linings

Cylinder Brick, &c., &c.

M. D. Valentine & Bro

Manufacturers of

FIRE BRICK
And Furnace Blocks
DRAIN PIPE & LAND TILE.

Woodbridge, - - - N. J.

BORGNER & O'BRIEN,

Manufacturers

FIRE BRICK

Edge Pressed Furnace Blocks,
CLAY RETORTS, TILES, &c.,
Twenty-third Street,
Abbots Race, PHILADELPHIA.
Twenty years' practical Experience.

PERTH AMBOY TERRA COTTA CO.,

Successors to

A. HALL & SONS, Perth Amboy, N. J.,
ARCHITECTURAL TERRA COTTA

FIRE BRICK.
170 Broadway, NEW YORK.

BROOKLYN

Clay Retort and Fire Brick Works,
(EDWARD D. WHITE & CO.)

Manufacturers of Clay Retorts, Fire Brick,
Gas House and other Tiles.

VAN DYKE, EL ZABETH, RICHARDS & PARTITION STS.
Office, 55 Van Dyke St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Watson Fire Brick Manufactory,
ESTABLISHED 1856.

JOHN B. WATSON, Perth Amboy, New Jersey.
Manufacturer of

FIRE BRICK,
For Rolling Mills, Blast Furnaces, Foundries,
Gas Works, Lime Kilns, Tanneries, Boiler
and Grate Setting, Glass Works, &c.
Fire Clays, Fire Sand, and Kaolin for Sale.

HENRY MAURER,
Proprietor of the
Excelsior Fire Brick & Clay
Retort Works.

Manufacturer of FIRE BRICK, HOLLOW
BRICK AND CLAY RETORTS.

WORKS: PERTH AMBOY, NEW JERSEY.

Office & Depot, 418 to 422 East 23d St., N. Y.

TROY FIRE BRICK WORKS,

Troy, N. Y.,

JAMES OSTRANDER & SON,

ESTABLISHED 1858.

Manufacturers of

FIRE BRICK,

Tuyeres, Tiles, Blast Furnace Blocks, &c. Miners and
Dealers in Woodbridge Fire Clay and Sand, and Station
Island Kaolin.

Established 1864.

GARDNER BROTHERS,

Manufacturers of

STANDARD SAVAGE FIRE BRICK,

TILE & FURNACE BLOCKS,

OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES.

Clay Gas Retorts and Retort Settings, and
Miners and Shippers of Fire Clay.

Office: 115 Smithfield St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Works: Mt. Savage Junction, Md., and Lockport, Pa.

HALL & SONS,

Buffalo, N. Y.

BARGAINS IN

VERTICAL ENGINES.

The best made, 2½ to 15-horse power. Write
for full particulars to

WILLIAM COOKE,

4 Cortlandt Street, NEW YORK.

Watchman's Improved Time Detector,
with Safety Lock Attachment.

Patented 1876-77.

Beware of imitations. This instru-
ment is supplied with
12 keys for 12 different
stations. Invaluable
for all concerns em-
ploying night watch-
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E. IMHAUSER,

212 Broadway, N. Y.

P. O. Box 275.



HENRY DISSTON & SONS,

KEYSTONE SAW, TOOL, STEEL & FILE WORKS,

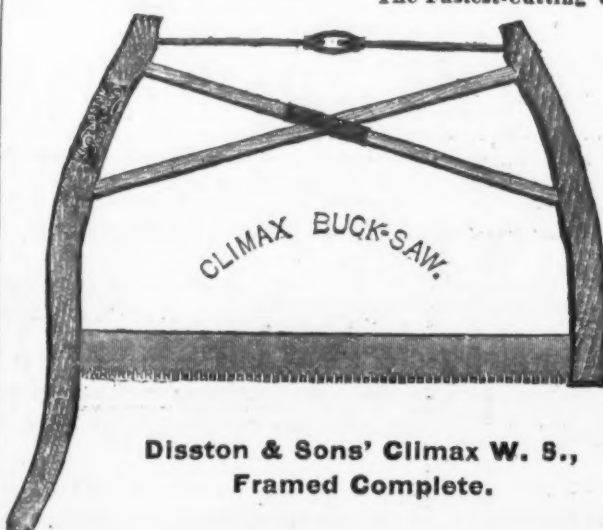
Front and Laurel Streets, PHILADELPHIA.

PATENT GROUND AND TEMPERED PEG TOOTH WOOD SAW BLADES, SET AND SHARPENED.

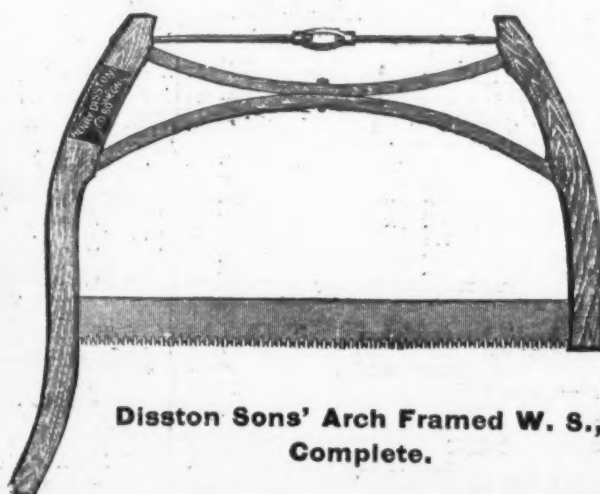
No. 6.—Disston & Sons' P. T., Set and Sharpened.

Peg Tooth Wood Saw Blades, Set and Sharpened.

No. 77.—Disston's Improved Wood Saw Blades, Set and Sharpened.
The Fastest-Cutting Wood Saw in the market.



Disston & Sons' Climax W. S.,
Framed Complete.



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Complete.

COLEMAN EAGLE BOLT WORKS

ESTABLISHED 1845.

WELSH & LEA.

NORWAY IRON CARRIAGE & TIRE BOLTS, AXLE CLIPS, &c.

Highest and only Awards and Medals, Philadelphia, 1876, and Paris, 1878.

WORKS, Columbia Avenue, Hancock and Mascher Streets.

OFFICE, 145 Columbia Avenue (late 2030 Arch St.)

PHILADELPHIA, U. S. A.

CHAMPION ONE-MAN SAW



WITH PATENT ADJUSTABLE ATTACHMENT. The only Saw that can be adjusted for either a One-Man or a Two-Man Saw.
We make the following lengths, 3½, 4, 4½, 5 feet. Send for sample.

WHEELER, MADDEN & CLEMSON MFG. CO., Middletown, N. Y.

THE PATENT SELF-FEEDING STAPLE SET-
TER FOR WIRE FENCES.



Holds 10 Staples, saves one man's work, saves torn
hands and mangled fingers, enables barbed fence to be
put up in the coldest weather and with thick gloves,
and is warranted of the best steel and malleable iron.
Price, \$3.00 each.



For Illustrated Catalogue of our own patented ap-
paratus, address Phila. Novelty Works Co., 312
Curry St., Philadelphia, Pa. Export Agents, Fair-
banks & Co., 311 Broadway, N. Y.



WM. L. DAVIS, Chelsea, Mass.,

Manufacturer of

WINDOW WEIGHTS,

Sole Manufacturer of

Park's Patent Folding Lunch Box.



PRIZE MEDALLISTS:
Exhibitions of 1862, 1865, 1867, 1873, 1875, and only
award and medal for Noiseless Steel Shutters at
Philadelphia, 1876, and Paris, 1878.

CLARK & CO.,

Original Inventors and Sole Patentees of

Noiseless Self-Coiling Revolving

STEEL SHUTTERS,

FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF.

ALSO IMPROVED

Rolling Wood Shutters

Of various kinds. Endorsed by the Lead-
ing Architects of the World.

Send for Catalogue.

Office and Manufactory,

162 & 164 West 27th St., N. Y.



THE PATENT
SCREW WINDOW BALANCE

With which the Sashes work as
with weights, their application
being at an expense of one-half
the cost of applied weights, no
boxings being required. The
Sashes are Locked with the most
ingenious lock. Stands alone in its
working. Price \$1 per set (four).
Discount to the trade. In use over
three years. Sole Mfr., Hartford, Ct., U. S. A.

John T. Lewis & Bros.

No. 231 South Front St.,

PHILADELPHIA.



TRADE MARK.

MANUFACTURERS OF

Pure White Lead, Red Lead, Litharge,
Orange Mineral, Linseed Oil,
AND PAINTERS' COLORS.

Brooklyn White Lead Co.



TRADE MARK

White Lead, Red Lead & Litharge.
No. 182 Front Street,
NEW YORK.

JOHN JEWETT & SONS,

Manufacturers of the well-known brand of

WHITE LEAD.



TRADE MARK.

ALSO MANUFACTURERS OF

LINSEED OIL.

182 Front Street, NEW YORK.



TRADE MARK.

The Atlantic White Lead
and Linseed Oil Co.,

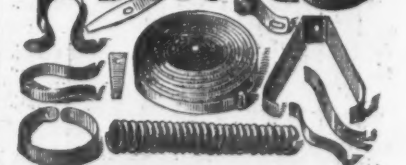
MANUFACTURERS OF

White Lead (Atlantic), Red Lead,

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ROBERT COLGATE & CO.,

287 Pearl Street, New York.



DUNBAR BROS.,

Manufacturers of

Clock Springs and Small Springs

of every description, from best Cast Steel

BRISTOL, CONN.

W. & J. TIEBOUT,

Manufacturers of

Brass, Galvanized & Ship

Chandlery Hardware,

No. 33 Chambers St., New York.

THOMAS MORTON,

65 Elizabeth Street, New York,

Manufacturer of Copper and Iron

SASH CHAINS,

With Patent Attachments.

Warranted for years. Chains of any size made to
order, and trade supplied with liberal discount.

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(Corrected Weekly by Lloyd, Shipley & Walton.)

Terms, 30 days. For 60 or 90 days, interest added at 10 per cent. per annum.

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Loss of 10 to 25 cents special price.

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Hunt's Kentucky and Yankee. per doz \$11.00

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PITTSBURGH.

Merchant Iron.

Terms.—Note or acceptance at 60 days, with current rate of exchange on New York, or a discount of 1 per cent. for cash, if remitted within 10 days from date of invoice.

Flat Bar.

1/2 to 4 by 1/2 to 1 inch. 2.50

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The Best Heaters in the World.

Keyser "Peace-Maker" Heaters.

Manufactured by

GOLD'S HEATER MANUFACTURING COMPANY,

624 to 642 East 14th St., New York.

Send for Catalogue. Ample discounts to the trade. Special rates to agents.

AXLES, SPRINGS, TOOLS, MACHINERY, CARRIAGE MAKERS' SUPPLIES,

Manufactured and sold by

Guy C. Hotchkiss, Field & Co.,

624 to 642 East 14th St., New York.

EAGLE FACING MILLS AND PLUMBAGO WORKS,

CINCINNATI, O.,

MANUFACTURERS OF

Foundry Facings and Blackings, Black Lead and

Lubricating Plumbago,

Foundry Supplies, Monk's Molders' Tools, Molding Sands.

Our Return Facings are used by all first-class Stone Manufacturers. Our Heavy Black-

ings are used by the U. S. Government, by the leading Railroad Foundries, and wherever

heavy castings are made.

QUALITY GUARANTEED THE BEST. SEND FOR PRICES.

S. OBERMAYER & CO., Prop'rs.

ELEVATOR

YOUNG'S IMPROVED

Blacksmiths' Tire Upsetter.

SOLD ONLY TO THE TRADE.

Send for discounts.

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BOLTS.

Every Bolt made from the

best of Norway Iron. Cups

placed on quickly. Rusty

bolts can be removed with-

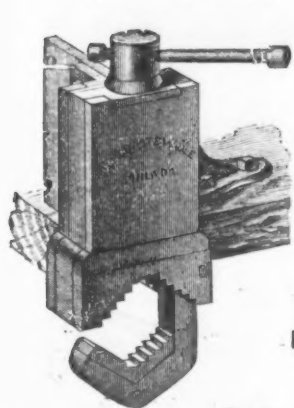
out injury. Strong, flat head,

which gives smooth belt an-

face.

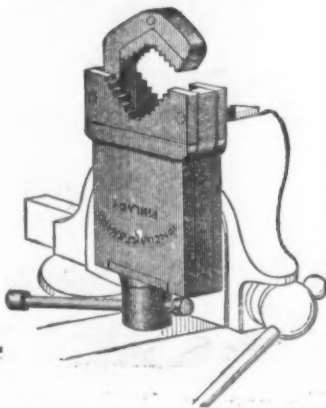
INDIANAPOLIS MACHINE AND BOLT WORK

IMPROVED PIPE-FITTERS' VISE.



STRONG,
LIGHT,
EFFICIENT,
CHEAP.

PRICE, \$8.00.



To meet the requirements of the large number of persons who have use for such an article, we invite attention to our Improved Pipe Vise. This Vise can be used either as a permanent fixture to work-bench, attached to angle plate or can (unlike others) be held between the jaws of any Machinist's or Blacksmith's Vise; the movable jaw being OPEN ON SIDE permits work to be gripped at any desired point without slipping it in from end, and allows of FITTINGS BEING HELD SECURELY; the Box is made of Malleable Iron, the Screw of Wrought Iron, and the remainder of Solid Steel throughout. The Steel Gripping Jaws can be duplicated and replaced at any time when worn out. It is a very convenient tool, well adapted to the wants of Plumbers, Pump Fitters, Well-Drivers, and all who have use for a tool that is strong, light, efficient and cheap which can be readily carried about with kit of tools.

MANUFACTURED BY
PANCOAST & MAULE,
243 and 245 South Third Street, Philadelphia.

Morse Twist Drill and Machine Co.,

NEW BEDFORD, MASS., Sole Manufacturers of

Morse Patent Straight-Lip Increase Twist Drill,
Beach's Patent Self-Centering Chuck, Solid and Shell Reamers.

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Drills for Coes, Worcester, Hunter and other Hand Drill
Presses, Beach's Patent Self-Centering Chucks, Center
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Drill Grinding Machines. Taper Reamers, Mill-
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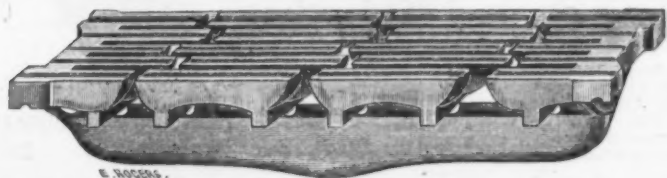
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Manufacturer of

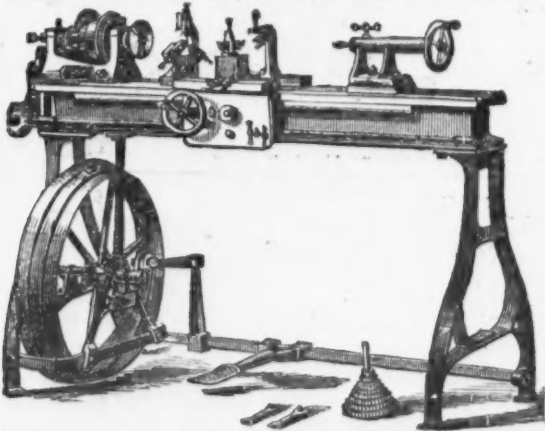
W. C. WREN'S PATENT GRATE BAR.



This Grate Bar consists of short parallel bars for carrying the coal, mounted above a long supporting bar, extending across the furnace by short transverse plates, holding the short bars, which sustain the heat so far above the supporting bar that it is kept comparatively cool, and is not, therefore, liable to warp, bend or burn. The bars which are subject to the heat, being made in short sections, do not strain the supporting bar. The short bars break joints at the meeting ends to prevent a straight open space across the whole; also to guide the rake used by firemen in cleaning the furnace better than they otherwise would.

We therefore claim the following advantages over other grate bars offered for sale:
1. Great saving in fuel.
2. Such construction as will equalize all strain resulting from expansion and contraction, thus avoiding warping, and thereby insuring long service.
3. Thorough combustion of fuel, owing to the large air spaces exposed.
4. Bars will not weigh more in proportion than the ordinary bar, and in addition to a saving of 25 per cent in fuel, will last much longer than any other bar in use.

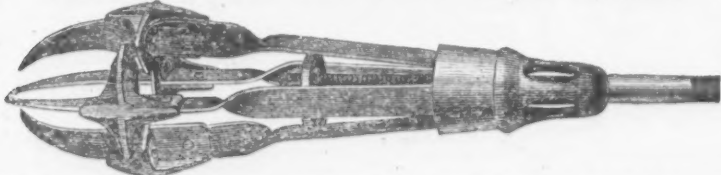
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Saves its cost every time it is used.
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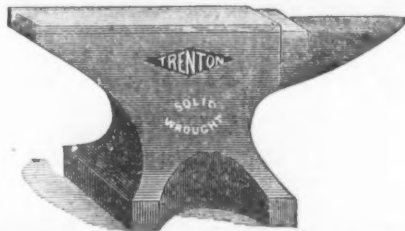
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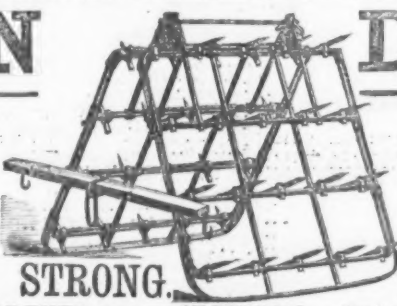
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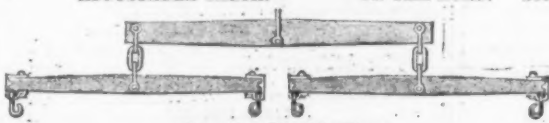
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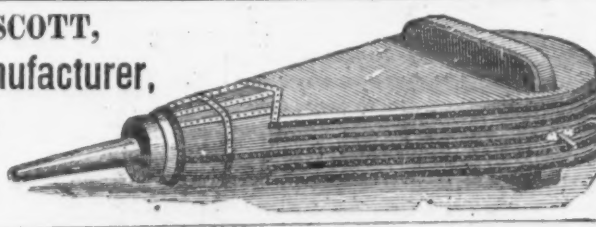
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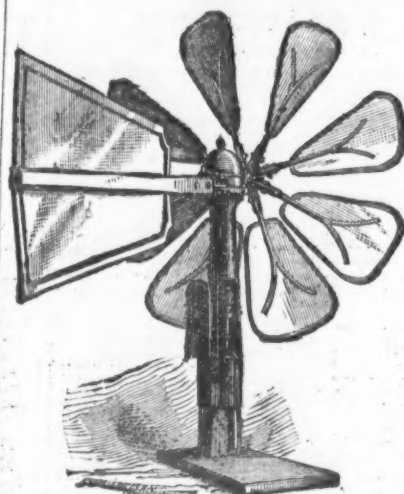
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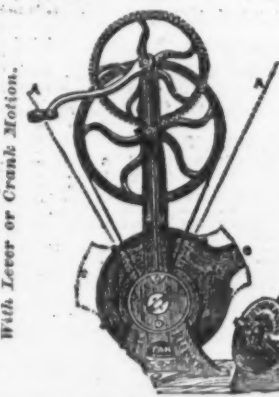
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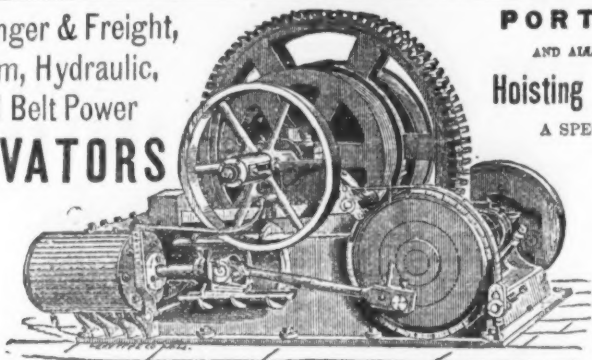
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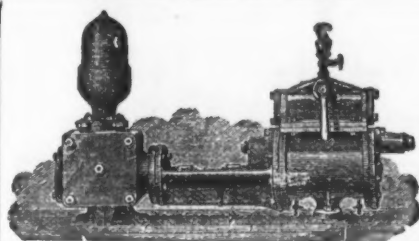
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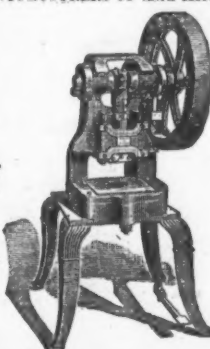
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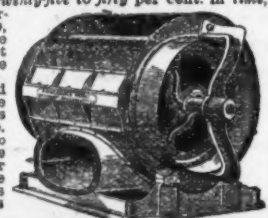


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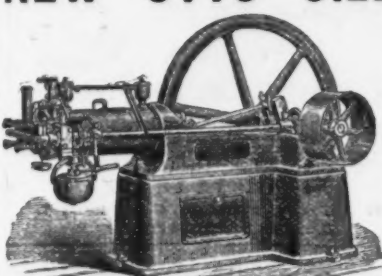
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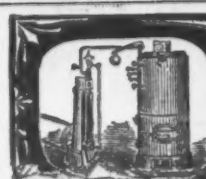
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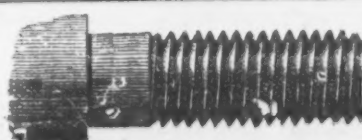
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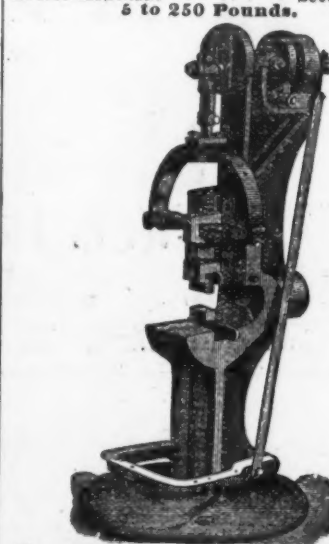
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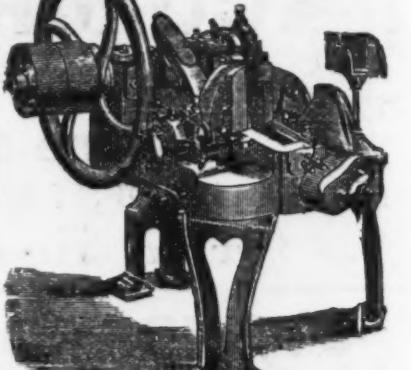
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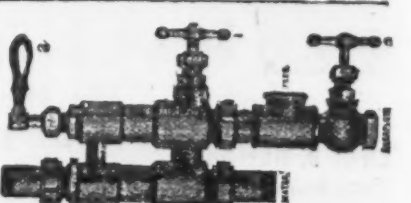
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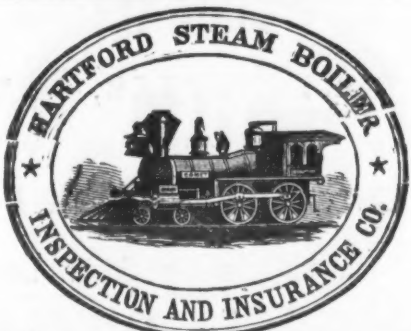
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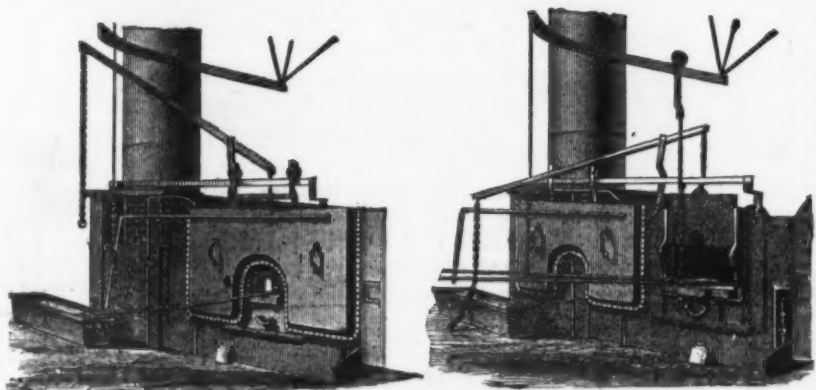
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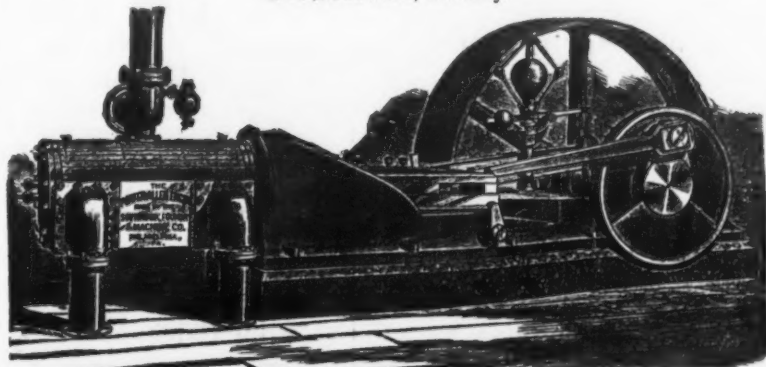
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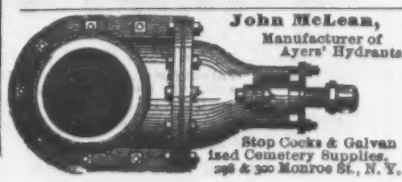
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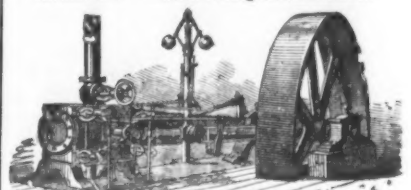
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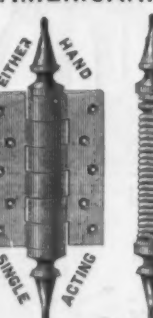
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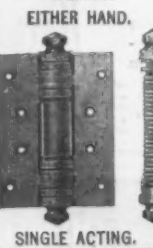
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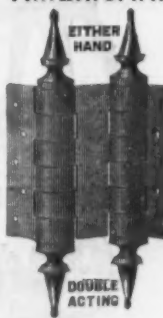


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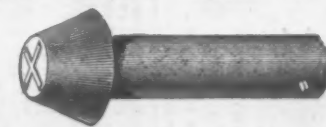
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